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"We shall never envy the honours which wit and learning obtain in any other cause, if we can be numbered among the writers who have given ardour to virtue, and confidence to truth."—Dr. Johnson.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

John Philip Kemble, *Esq.*

OF the fame bestowed by the stage upon its votaries, it may more truly be said, than of any other, that it is "a fancied life in other's breath;" it exists only in individual recollection; its honours and its glories are recorded by nothing that lives after them. The poet and the sculptor twine, themselves, the garland that blossoms when they are no more, that gathers accumulated lustre in the lapse of ages: but the actor cannot: with the generation that beholds him he is celebrated: but to the succeeding ones his name alone is transmitted, while the foundations on which that name is reared have perished for ever. It is not in language to convey an adequate conception of those powers which, when beheld, exalt the mind to gaiety, or sink it into anguish, call forth tears from the sternest hearts, and mould our feelings into whatever shape they will. It is impossible to picture to our minds the efforts of Garrick from all the laboured attempts that have been made by writers, who themselves have seen him. Their epithets of admiration, their methodical disquisitions, their lavish praises, are words without ideas: we can, indeed, conceive a great degree of excellence; but all the gradations of that excellence, all its various forms, must be felt, may be remembered, but can never be described. So, to a future age, language must fail, when it would seek to pourtray the *Octavian*, *Coriolanus*, *Zanga*, and *Hamlet* of Kemble.

This distinguished tragedian was born at Prescot, in Lancashire, in the year 1757. He was sent early to a catholic school in Staffordshire, (though *never* designed by his father for a priest, as has been said) whence he was afterwards removed to an English college at Douay. It is said, that while here, he became noticed for a remarkable power of memory, and an elegance and propriety of elocution. But the confinement of a college life becoming irksome, more especially to one who had already imbibed a strong predilection for the stage, young Kemble left Douay before he was twenty.

Mr. Kemble's first appearance on the stage was at Wolverhampton, in the character of *Theodosius* in the *Force of Love*. He next acted at Worcester, and afterwards joined Mr. Younger at the theatre-royal in Manchester, and from that time rapidly improved in his profession. It was about this period that he produced *Belisarius*, a tragedy; and a poem called the *Palace of Mersey*: not the Palace of *Mercy*, as it is uniformly called. It was a supposed assemblage of the river gods, &c. of the Mersey.

Like every man who makes the world his home, and erects the fabric of his own fortunes, Mr. Kemble has been made the hero of some extraordinary adventures, which we forbear to repeat, because so few of the anecdotes respecting public characters have any foundation in truth. Isaac Reed observes, with great justness—"I know not from what cause it has arisen, but I think I have observed a more than common degree of inaccuracy in facts and dates relative to the stage, as often as they become objects for the memory to exercise itself upon." A celebrated person, in fact, becomes a mark for every man to shoot at: wit and malice, envy and mirth, vanity and falsehood, all concur in one common warfare: their victim must often smart

beneath their attacks: but, as the Scythian ambassadors said to Alexander, "we are all face," so ought the objects of public scandal to say to their antagonists. In custom resides a balm for many evils that afflict us sorely when we first encounter them.

His next progression was to join Mr. Wilkinson at York, who being appointed manager at Edinburgh, took Kemble with him. In this capital he was received with as much liberality as is usually found in Scotchmen: he delivered a lecture on oratory, which redounded to his fame as a literary character. In 1781, he went to Dublin, and joined the company in Smock-alley, then under the management of Mr. Daly. Here he made his first appearance in *Hamlet*, and greatly distinguished himself. He also performed the *Count of Narbonne*, in Jephson's insipid dialogue so called, which had an extraordinary run; and the author expressed in the strongest manner his sense of Mr. Kemble's excellent performance.

The wanderings of a provincial actor are only circumvolutions round a centre to which they finally tend. London is looked forward to as the crown of their labours, the estimator of their merits, and the rewarder of their talents. But the hopes that cheer us in our path are often but an *ignis fatuus*, which leads us on with delusive splendor, till we sink into the grave and then confess their vanity. *Spes est expectatio boni futuri*, says Cicero; and this expectation, when the companion of real desert, rarely deceives us. Mr. Kemble appeared before a London audience in 1784, and from that time succeeding years have reaped for him succeeding honours.

The character he chose was *Hamlet*, one certainly that requires a rare combination of qualities to represent it truly. From Mr. Kemble's delineation of it, the strongest hopes were formed of his future excellence; and his *Hamlet* of the present day must rank as the most perfect picture which the stage can boast of. We shall not here stop to enumerate Mr. Kemble's professional excellencies: in our *Theatrical Recorder* we are every month called upon to declare them.

Mr. Kemble remained at Drury-lane theatre from this period, till within a few years. In that long course of time he continued to support all the leading characters in tragedy, aided by his sister's efforts, and mutually illustrating each other. They who have seen him and Mrs. Siddons in *Macbeth*, *Venice Preserved*, *Isabella*, &c. have seen such perfection as a future age can only guess at, unless another Siddons and another Kemble should arise together.

In 1787, Mr. Kemble married his present wife; and respecting which marriage a most unaccountable fiction has been propagated, at once injurious to the feelings and to the character of Mr. Kemble. The story we allude to is well known: it relates to a supposed gratuity offered to Mr. Kemble by Lord North, if he would marry any woman within a limited time to prevent a union with his own daughter, who had conceived an affection for him. That this calumny is utterly false might be inferred from its discordance, being related in every work which we have seen in a different manner. But, independently of surmise, we can take upon ourselves to affirm, that the whole is so completely devoid of truth that Mr. Kemble never spoke to Lord North in his life, nor with his daughter till after she was married. When we find such gross fabrications given to the world with all the solemnity of truth, it teaches us a caution in believing the thousand *anecdotes* (as they are innocently termed) of public characters.

Mr. Kemble has occasionally, it is said, performed in operas; but not with much celebrity we believe. When rehearsing his part once in *Richard Cœur de Lion*, and attempting his song, Mr. Shaw, the leader of the band, exclaimed, "Oh, Sir! how shockingly you *murder* the time!" "If I do," replied Mr. Kemble, "I am not so merciless as you, who are always *beating* it."

On the secession of Mr. King in 1788, he was appointed stage-manager at Drury-lane, which situation

he resigned in 1796, and resumed it again shortly after till the year 1801. During his management he revived many excellent old pieces, and made judicious alterations in most of them. In 1786, he produced a farce, called the *Project*; in 1788, another, called the *Pannel*, taken from the comedy of *Its well its no worse*; and in 1789, the *Farmhouse*, taken from the *Custom of the Manor*. He altered Mrs. Behn's comedy of the *Rover* in 1790, and called it *Love in many masks*; and translated from the French, a musical romance, called *Lodoiska*, in 1794, which was very popular.

But Shakspeare is the author whom Mr. Kemble has studied with a lover's fondness and a scholar's accuracy. His professional knowledge, his literary attainments, and his critical skill, enabled him, more than any man, to do justice to our immortal bard. He has adapted several of Shakspeare's plays for representation, with a most nice judgment and much labour. He has preserved every thing of Shakspeare; but has given to the efforts of his genius that form which may best accommodate him to modern taste, and rescue some of his finest effusions from the solitary enjoyment of the scholar. But clamour has pursued him even here: witlings have yelped, and critic curs have snarled: Mr. Kemble, however, has that manly confidence in his own powers, which renders him incapable of swerving from the petty attacks of such minute enemies. If any one wish to be at once convinced of his great judgment in his emendatory labours, let them compare *The Tempest*, as now acted, with the *Tempest* as altered by Garrick. In the latter, Prospero is transformed into a man of demi-semiquavers, and the whole piece is full of the fantastic fopperies and incongruous absurdities of a modern opera!

In 1802, Mr. Kemble quitted Drury-lane, and made a short tour upon the continent. After his return he purchased a share of Covent-garden theatre, for which he paid twenty-five thousand pounds; and on the commencement of the year 1803, he accordingly assumed that power which he has held since.

Besides his excellence in the standard characters of the drama, he has been the entire support of many new ones; and his genius thus called forth, has stamped a seal of individuality upon them, from which no future actor can safely depart. Such are *Rolla*, the *Stranger*, *Penruddock*, and last, not least, *Octavian*.

Nature has been highly liberal in her endowments towards Mr. Kemble. To a noble, dignified, and expressive countenance, is added an elegant and interesting person; and by a constant perseverance he has himself united to these a gracefulness of deportment, a purity of action and attitude, which excel every thing the modern stage can boast of. In private life he is polite, affable, and communicative: his conversation is that of a gentleman and scholar.

The portrait which accompanies this brief memoir is a most perfect likeness of Mr. Kemble *off* the stage: of Mr. Kemble in fact in a room. We are indebted for it to the obliging liberality of Sir Francis Bourgeois.

A Vindication of the first Lord LYTTELTON *and Mr.* GARRICK *from the Censures of a late Editor.*

SIR,

NOTWITHSTANDING the very favourable opinion which you have given of Sim's Life of Mr. Mickle, prefixed to the new edition of his poems, in some of your former numbers, I cannot help agreeing with the reviewer of that article in the British Critic for June last, when he says, "We are sorry to say, that it places the character of one great man, at least, in a very contemptible light." One of these great men, at least, deserved treatment very different from a minister of that religion, whose chief characteristics are charity and forgiveness. I am truly sorry, Mr. Editor, to see transactions, which had been buried for nearly half a century, now invidiously brought to light, with a view to exhibit as an unprincipled, unfeeling, shuffling, courtly sycophant, a personage who stood foremost in the defence of revelation, and, if we may believe the testimony of two eminent contemporary authors, in the cause of

humanity and benevolence.* The Monthly Reviewers, in their criticisms upon the first edition, very properly observe, "that Lord Lyttelton could not provide for every one whom he wished to patronise, and that Mickle never complained." On the contrary, Mr. Ireland, in his anecdotes prefixed to that edition, says, "Mr. Mickle always spoke of Lord Lyttleton with a respect bordering upon reverence." Would it not have been more candid, much more becoming the christian and the clergyman, instead of exposing a great, not to say, a venerable character to undeserved contempt and ridicule, to have adopted the more liberal opinion of the immortal Cervantes, "Those incidents, which neither change nor affect the truth of history, ought to be omitted, when they tend to depreciate a great character!"

I am not so indiscriminating an admirer of elevated rank as to censure Mr. Sim for his animadversions on the conduct of a northern peer, (whose taste, liberality, and feelings seem to be nearly upon a level) though they might have been expressed with less asperity: his grace is still living, and may, if he chuse, apply for legal redress. As to poetical redress, the following is, perhaps, all he has any reason to expect:—

"Oh, may that man that hath the Muses scorn'd,
"Alive, nor dead, be ever of a Muse adorn'd!"

There is no unprejudiced friend of Mr. Mickle's, I believe, but must candidly allow, that the judgment passed upon his tragedy by Mr. Garrick was perfectly just, (though the piece was so warmly patronised by both the Wartons) "Notwithstanding there are many, many beautiful passages, it wants dramatic art, and cannot be made fit for the stage without new modelling:" and there is no one, I conceive, who has read the Life of Mr. Cumberland, who, to use Mr. Sim's phraseology, "knew Mr. Garrick intimately, and knew him long," but would wish that the extract of a letter to Mr. Boswell had been suppressed, which not only charges Mr. Garrick with great duplicity in some money transactions between the poet and the player, but introduces a conversation, in which an intimate friend of Mr. Garrick's, after hearing Mr. Mickle's account of this affair, is said to have called Mr. Garrick a d—d s——l. *De mortuis nihil nisi bonum.*

I cannot conclude without observing, that Mr. Sim appears to be much more disposed to censure than to praise, as he has not taken any notice of the very elegant present from Mr. Mortimer to his friend, of the frontispiece to the second edition of the Lusiad, designed and engraved by that eminent artist, (though recorded by Mr. Ireland): out of gratitude for which Mr. Mickle honoured his memory by writing an epitaph, which does equal credit to the poet and the painter. Your's, &c. SENEX.

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* Thompson, after invoking those generous minds,

"Whose active search
Leaves no cold wint'ry corner unexplor'd,
Like silent working Heaven, surprising oft
The lonely heart with unexpected good, adds.
These are the sacred feelings of thy heart,
Thy heart, inform'd by reason's purest ray,
O LYTTELTON, the friend!"

Fielding, in his dedication of Tom Jones to Lord (then Mr.) Lyttelton, after acknowledging that he partly owed his existence to him, during a great part of the time in which he was employed in composing that justly celebrated performance, adds, "If there be in this work, as some have been pleased to say, a stronger picture of a truly benevolent mind than is to be found in any other, who, that knows you, will doubt whence that benevolence has been copied."

On the Use of CARROT TOPS *as food for* CATTLE.

SIR,

THE suggestions on this subject by Mr. Eldridge, in your last number, p. 55, are practical and well intended, and by no means to be condemned, merely because objections to them may be started. He discovers a laudable zeal for a very important object: the means of keeping cattle full-fed throughout all seasons.

The good quality of the carrot top, and that it is readily eaten by all kinds of live stock, are circumstances sufficiently well known; and doubtless, when a person is in the predicament of finding such a measure necessary from being deficient in summer food for his cattle, he would experience a most beneficial resource in adopting Mr. Eldridge's plan, and twice mowing the tops from his carrot crop, whether to the extent in point of quantity, which that gentleman supposes, I am unable to warrant.

Nor can I, at any rate, warrant, that depriving carrots of their tops during vegetation, would not injure the roots. In fact, I am of a directly opposite opinion, from analogous experience. The larger vegetables, particularly those, the value of which resides in their roots, differ greatly from the grasses in this particular, and indeed are essentially injured by being deprived of their leaves and stalks. Nothing can be more evident in speculation, than that by cutting off the top of the growing carrot, you take from the root something which would, in the natural process of withering, ultimately centre there; and you rob the root still more by encouraging a superfluous vegetation of branches or top, as appears probable by the exhausted state of roots left to vegetate for seed. A farther and very heavy damage might ensue, perhaps even to the destruction of the crop, in a dry season, from laying bare the crown of the root, and depriving it of that moisture from the air, which it is the chief function of the leaves and branches to attract. On the other hand, in seasons of extreme humidity, to leave the root unprotected by its full natural covering, would be to expose it to the risk of becoming spongy and unsubstantial. Mr. Eldridge's experiment of leaving one bed of carrots uncut, not merely from its being a single instance, is obviously indecisive. I have elsewhere noticed the experiment of making hay from carrot tops, which did not succeed on a late trial, although former experiments had been stated as favourable to such practice. In fine, I apprehend the case I have put above sets the question at rest—the good quality of the carrot top is proved, and whenever the summer want of green meat may predominate, we shall be warranted in sacrificing a portion of the winter crop of roots.

Mr. Eldridge also adverts to the excellence of the carrot for fattening beef and mutton. It is indubitable; and were I guided by my own palate, I should earnestly wish that carrots and other good articles might supersede the use of gross oil cake, which produces rank, loose, and unsavoury flesh, filling the dishes and plates with white tallow spots, resembling those upon a candlestick. But oil cakes do the business quickly, and spare the new fangled trouble of raising cattle crops; the meat fetches a full market price; and provided there be plenty, John Bull is not so fastidious as to enquire upon what it has been fattened. I am yet inclined to suppose, that the simplicity of the process, of merely purchasing the cakes and carting them home, weighs with the feeders; and I will venture to say, that beef and mutton may be fattened to an equal weight at less expense, with articles grown upon the farm. As to the quality of the meat, on a comparison, no difference of price would bring the two species upon a level.

I rejoice, Mr. Editor, to see now and then an agricultural dish in your literary bill of fare. It will encourage and increase the number of your country readers, to find that you are not unmindful of the cause of husbandry—the good old cause; by which at last, without any question, we must either stand or fall.

I am, Sir, &c.

Somer's-Town. JOHN LAWRENCE.

CHURCH STEEPLES *in* SCOTLAND.

Sir,

TRAVELLING lately through some of the southern towns of Scotland, I perceived a thing of which I should be glad to know the reason, and likewise whether it be usual in any other country. The *steeple* of the church at Selkirk, and in other towns, is generally some distance from the church, and placed usually upon the town-house. I enquired of several persons about it, but they could not assign the cause of a cir-

cumstance apparently so, singular. If, therefore, I can obtain the desired information from any of your correspondents, through the channel of your Magazine, I shall feel much gratified; and remain,

Carlisle, Sir, &c.
Jan. 27, 1808. VIATOR.

THOUGHTS *on the* RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTS *desirable in an* ENGLISH SOVEREIGN.

Sir,

AMONG those due acquirements of a destined ruler which stand foremost for consideration, opinions on religion will ever be placed by the judicious of all classes. Those accordingly who have written on this important subject, bestow a great portion of time and labour on a department so evidently essential to a profitable discussion of their theme. In differing from the sentiments of those well-intentioned persons, who have come before the public on this question, I feel that I am treading on tender ground. Enthusiasm on one hand, and interest on the other, must be ready to raise the cry of obloquy against the man who dares arraign the beatific visions of their rapt fancies. Be it so: we are all liable to mistakes; and if the reader do not attribute the error into which I possibly may fall, to *intention,* I am perfectly content.

"*Pious* sovereigns," says the author of Hints towards forming the Character of a Young Princess, "are at all times the richest boon which Heaven can bestow on a country." If, by pious, were meant, in this place, that reverential regard of the deity which induces habits of moral decorum; that perfect respect for the established religion of his country, which compels, on principle, an attention to the ordinances of the church; I would readily agree with Mrs. Hannah More on the propriety of cultivating, without reserve, such sentiments in the bosom of an apparent heir to the crown. But, from that long exposition of the writer's sentiments which follows, (and which can be inserted only in indirect recommendation to the exalted character concerning whom she is writing) it appears that the authoress would describe, under the designation of that piety which is desirable in a prince, an enthusiastic and unlimited attention--in constant thought, in perpetual act—to the rituals of religion—advice that would be more properly applied to the noviciate of a catholic seminary, or a student at Hoxton, than to the personage destined for extensive speculation and worldly activity. "That life," says a great moral and christian writer,* "is the most acceptable to God which is the most useful to man." It is the hard fate of princes, amid all the splendour of their courts, amid all the whispers of adulation which assail their ears, to be unable to tread with undeviating steps that path which a correct judgment and uniform simplicity of taste might prescribe. Individual opinions must be occasionally sacrificed to the jarring interests of society at large. It must necessarily be so, when the good of the whole is to be studied, in contempt of personal gratification. Is it wise, then, to permit any one sect (however plausible their arguments, or highly stationed their power) to engraft immoveably their set of opinions on the master-spring of the political machine? From whom is toleration to be expected, but from the man whose expansive mind comprehends the whole interests of a thousand branches from the original stock, with the eye of a tutelar father, rather than attaches every thought to one with the fondness of a partizan? Does piety, in Mrs. Hannah More's sense, produce toleration? Does it nurture that large sense of general welfare, which inclines the noble mind to yield religious points to the wishes of a part where policy suggests the measure, and the moral good of the whole is not implicated? Mrs. Hannah More is a very pleasing writer, and if she were dictating to the expectant of an archbishopric, she would write with good sense as well as much elegance.

Conceiving the term *pious* to describe a person, the business of whose life is prayer and worship, rather than him who merely regulates his general conduct by an habitual reverence for

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* Johnson.

religion, I do not hesitate, Sir, to say, in direct contradiction to the presumed author of the "Hints," that *pious princes*, so far from being "the richest boon which Heaven can bestow on a country," have been uniformly found to plunge nations in discord, bloodshed, and misery! Our Henry the sixth was a truly pious man. The lessons of his ghostly preceptors he took most kindly to heart. If they did not write, they talked to the same effect with Mrs. Hannah More. Each courtier echoed the dulcet tenets, and Henry became "*A pious prince!*" As memorials of those many hours dedicated by Henry to *pious* meditations, while grievances of all kinds (and the intrinsic interests of religion therefore not excepted) called for impartial consideration, there exist, in various historians, very minute accounts of battles, in which father fought against son, and brother drew the blood of brother! together with an authentic detail of the deposition of the abstracted sovereign, after the happiness of his people had fallen a wreck before the footstool of his throne!

Queen Mary was a very pious princess, (since she attended most rigidly to the rituals of worship as then in practice). Without presuming to enter into historical controversy, I hope I may be allowed, in common candour, to say that Queen Mary's piety might have sat very innocently on her in a private character. Her only failing appears to have been a bigotted and personal love for one form of worship, to the exclusion of all regard for any other. She fell on unfortunate times, and her advisers (with a persecuting spirit which never can revive in such extremities) prevailed on her to add *her* power to *their* wishes.

James the second may be certainly called a pious prince; and a rich boon he assuredly was to the country, in producing the revolution. But such perilous boons must ever be looked on with trembling apprehension.

It may be curious, on the other hand, to remark, that very great blessings have been entailed on their country by such princes as never can be deemed pious, in Mrs. H. More's sense, though charity inclines us to hope they possessed that saving clause of religious veneration for the deity, which rendered their prayers acceptable; and it is certain, that they paid that attention to public worship, which their high situation, independent of every other claim, rendered so imperiously necessary.

Had Henry the eighth copied the sixth sovereign of his name, on what foreign coast, and to what distant era, would our glorious reformation have lingered, before that truly "rich boon" shed its temperate lustre over our *pious* cloisters? Nay, had he even possessed the narrow, injudicious, impolitic notions of the otherwise kingly father of the ill-instructed Harry the sixth, he would have employed those hours in preparing the rod of *wholesome admonition* for another *Band of Lollards*, which were so wisely dedicated to the emancipating of the long-subjected human mind.

I should very unwillingly be deemed the advocate of profligacy or irreligion, but I must venture to observe, that if Charles the second had imbibed the narrow and partial views of his brother and successor, whatever sect or establishment his bigotry might have favoured, he would never have been able to restore the throne of his forefathers to the secure seat which it afforded him through a long and (as to a religious cabal) comparatively quiet reign. When we reflect on the distracted state in which he found the country; when we figure the height to which the well-meaning, but enthusiastic, *pious* of all denominations had carried religious differences, we can scarce avoid surprise at the ease with which the impartiality of this (in many respects too blameable sovereign) so far reconciled all contrarieties of opinion, as to prevent their coming to an open rupture.

Sir, it appears from all historical intelligence, and from all probable calculation, that the confined and fervid spirit which this writer would recommend for cultivation in the bosom of a sovereign, is not the religious sentiment befitting a prince. A respect for the establishment is instilled, by the oath administered at his inauguration. In the breast of a good king, that sacred obligation (in-

dependent of personal conviction) will assuredly exhibit the necessity of unostentatious respect for the regularity of public worship: let those who would step beyond the temperate doctrine of this admonitory restraint, believe it their duty to expatiate on the virtues of general charity and general toleration. Since, as I take it, it is not so much the province of a British sovereign to make his own belief a model for that of his subjects, as to guard, with a paternal hand, their distinctions of opinion from annoyance, and their dissentious spirits from militating against the common welfare.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Hanover-square. A. Z.

To the Editor of the Universal Mag.

SIR,

I AM glad you inserted mine, to clear up an unpleasant mistake; and if Mr. B. will take a *chearer*, or a slice of my landlady's round, with me on any market-day at Morpeth, he will find me at the Nag's Head at one o'clock, the dinner hour.

Being a fond admirer of our English classic, Gray, I send you a shilling's worth of postage, in order to vindicate his fair fame. He is not infallible, indeed: Gray has blemishes, but very few. Your correspondent Aristarchus, in your number for December last, is rather unfortunate in his censures of Gray.

" Say, Father Thames, &c. &c.
* * *
Who foremost now delight to cleave,
* * *
The captive linnet *which* enthral."

Mature reflection may convince Aristarchus, that *which* is here proper, being demonstrative as " *which* of them"——" delight and enthral" may be singular in the potential mode of using those verbs. Your correspondent probably is not accustomed to see any but rosy milkmaids and rosy swains, and therefore attaches the colour of the rose to " buxom." Now did he live near me I could shew him any day of the week lads and lasses of *the mine*, with health and strength, *buxom* and gay, without a *tint* of either the rose or the lily. Dr. Johnson defines *buxom* " obedient, gay, lively, wanton, jolly," not a word of rosy; and *invention* he defines " excogitation, or the power of producing something new:" why then should not the poet call that inventive faculty " ever new?"

" Old poetic mountain." May not a mountain, by a figure, be called *old*, which has been celebrated in ancient poetry? the adjunct is prefixed to " poetic," not to mountain."

Your correspondent says, " I do not stop to point out beauties, because that has been done *usque ad nauseam*." I wonder Aristarchus does not content himself with the productions of some minor poet, if the beauties of Gray make him sick. I thank him for calling me down to earth again from the upper regions, by his critique upon Gray's lines on Milton's blindnes:

" Blasted with excess of light,"

And " closed his eyes in endless night" Aristarchus has prefixed " *and*" to the second line, as a *voluntary* to connect the lines. The remark is just, that *truth* and *metaphor* cannot be so closely united. And yet " silly" as this " attempt" is called by your correspondent, I honestly confess that I have read it over and over again, not only without *nausea*, but with delight. It was but the other evening that, in reading these lines, I laid the book down and traversed my room, repeating them to myself with enthusiastic admiration of the powers of Gray. The defect of judgment *here* was entirely forgotten. Nay, I venture to assert, that the man who reads them unmoved, has not a *dormant excitability*, or single spark of poetic fire within him.

Next month I will send you more notices of Gray: such indeed as have already been given to the world, but, considering that the pamphlet whence the selection shall be made is little known, you may perhaps think them deserving a place in your next number. I remain your

constant reader,

W. B.

N.B. I request that the initials only may be given, for fear of alarming my numerous friends and relations of the same *name*.

From the Farm,

Feb. 12, 1808.

Observations *on the* Poor Laws.

By the Rev. Joseph Townsend, *Rector of Pewsey.*

FOR more than two hundred years we have incessantly been striving to ameliorate the condition of the poor. Yet their distresses have constantly increased in proportion to the sums of money collected for their relief.

Till of late years these sums were inconsiderable: but within the last fifty years they have been rapidly augmented; and in the same proportion the manners of the poor have become depraved, and their morals exceedingly corrupted.

These effects must, in great measure, be attributed to the operation of our Poor Laws, which, however wise in their origin, are not suited to the present condition of our nation. Nay, so far are they from answering the benevolent intentions of the legislature, that they increase the evils they mean to remedy, and aggravate the distress they were intended to relieve. To the superficial observer these laws may appear beautiful; but both in their principle and operation they are oppressive, impolitic, absurd, unjust.

I. They are oppressive and unjust, because they invade the right of property by establishing the worst possible community of goods. For, by these laws the lazy, the prodigal, and the vicious, with their children, must be *first* clothed and fed, before the proprietor of houses, lands, or stock in trade, can enjoy the fruits of his industry and savings.

It is now no longer lawful for a man "to do what he will with his own." He may plough and he may sow; but he can have no certainty that he shall reap. He may plant, but others claim the fruit before him. He may build; but strangers, under the sanction of the laws, come and occupy his dwelling.

Sic Vos non vobis nidificatis Aves,
Sic Vos non vobis mellificatis Apes,
Sic Vos non vobis Vellerafertis Oves,
Sic Vos non vobis fertis Aratra Boves.

Thus the laws which should protect property are so unjust as to invade it.

When the French people first declared in favour of *equality*, it excited universal indignation on this side the water. But they never dreamt of any thing so iniquitous as a new and equal division of property. Had they, however, entertained such a thought, and had they carried that thought into effect, the evil would have been limited and transient; it would have even vanished from the sight, when compared with the dire and permanent effects produced by our Poor Laws. For these give to idleness prodigality and vice, *not equality*, but priority of claim to the fruits of industry against the rightful owner. If any one suffer want, it must be the sober, the virtuous, the parsimonious, the laborious; not the indolent, the profligate, the spendthrift. Happily, however, for the interest of humanity, England is the only country upon the face of the globe, in which such injustice has ever been sanctioned by the laws.

II. These laws are impolitic, because they check the exertions of industry, they offer a premium to indolence, and lessen the quantity of productive labour.

It is the desire of bettering his condition, and of securing himself from the apprehension of wanting either the necessaries or the comforts of life, which is the spring of action to mankind. Whatever therefore tends to weaken and destroy this spring should be considered as impolitic.

They who have either landed or monied property, should have that property secured to them; and they who have no other property but the strength of their arms, should be excited to industry, to sobriety, to virtuous conduct, to provident economy, and to subordination, both by the hope of gain and by the fear of want. But this hope is checked, and this fear is banished, by our laws. Hence it is that our common people are more idle, drunken, vicious, improvident, and insolent, than the great mass of labouring poor in other countries.

In Scotland, a collection is made at the church doors every Sabbath for the relief of the poor, and the amount is distributed according to the discretion of the minister and the deacons of the church. This perfectly agrees with the apostolic regulation, "On the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God

hath prospered him. Every man according as he *purposeth in his heart*, so let him give not grudgingly or of *necessity*, for God loveth a cheerful giver."—1 Cor. ch. 16, v. 2. 2 Cor. ch. 9, v. 7.

This practice is wise and politic. The sum to be distributed is limited, and admits of distinctions in its distribution. It is given to the most worthy among the indigent, and therefore proves a powerful encouragement to industry, to sobriety, to economy, to subordination, and to every social virtue. These are distinctions unknown to our poor laws, which disregard the moral character, and confine the attention of the magistrate and of the parish officer to the wants of the applicant, however these wants may have been produced. No encouragement is given to virtue, no punishment held forth for vice. Should any man have wasted the inheritance of his father, have reduced himself by vice to poverty, have rendered himself unworthy to be trusted, being at the same time unqualified for the laborious parts of the trade to which he may have been originally bred, and for the works of husbandry; yet all his wants must be supplied; he must be lodged, clothed, and fed by the labours and at the expense of the sober, of the industrious, and of the parsimonious; and if he should choose to marry, his children, however vicious, must first be clothed, before the children of those by whose labour and from whose gains these profligates are clothed and fed.

Undistinguishing benevolence defeats its own purpose, and is productive of the greatest evils. For, "if the manner in which relief is given is not a spur to industry, it becomes a premium to sloth and profligacy." It is well known, that in our manufacturing parishes, a man in three days may earn sufficient to maintain himself and family for seven days. But, in consequence of having nothing to fear from poverty, he makes no provision for the future, he loses three or four days labour in every week, and spends that money at the alehouse, which should have been treasured up for his relief in seasons of distress.

The evil, however, does not find its termination here. He acquires habits of dissipation and extravagance, becomes vicious in more ways than one, brings on disease, hastens decrepitude, prematurely dies, and leaves a family behind him as a burthen to the parish.

Such is the encouragement held forth by our poor laws to industry.

III. Our Poor Laws are absurd, because they attempt that which, it is evident, can never be accomplished. They say that no man shall want. But in every state, as population increases, either some must want, or all must starve.

It may be assumed, as an axiom in political economy, that animals have a tendency to increase their numbers in exact proportion to their quantity of food.

Every farmer feels the force of this axiom. He knows, that according to the extent of his pasture he may increase his flocks. But his pasture being limited, he is obliged to limit the number of his breeding stock, or they would devour the whole produce of his land, and die themselves for want of food. Two rabbits are sufficient to stock the most extensive warren.

In the year 1796, the cochineal insect was introduced on the coast of Coromandel from the Brazils. It was considered as a great acquisition, and much care was taken of it at first. It would feed on nothing but the common native opuntia, which is generally used for hedges all over the country. In a short time the insect increased to such a degree as to destroy all the opuntias in the Carnatic; and so complete was the havock, which this voracious creature made, that the remaining stumps of the hedges in which it had settled looked as if they had been consumed with fire. Nor was this all; for when our army was in Mysore, in the year 1799, the natives mentioned, what appeared to them very astonishing and unaccountable, that all their opuntias had about the same period, been entirely consumed. In this manner a small insect introduced from the Brazils, for the laudable purpose of establishing a cochineal manufacture, wasted and destroyed in the short period of three years al-

most all the opuntias of the southern peninsula of India.

It is impossible to conceive a fact more illustrative of the axiom in question, than this rapid increase of the insect, to which we are indebted for our scarlet die.

The subject is important, and cannot be too much attended to, in order to remove our prejudices and to establish just principles of political economy. I must therefore intreat my readers to consider what is related of the dogs in Turkey. They are no man's property, nor are they permitted to enter the habitation of a Turk, but range the streets in perfect liberty. Here their numbers are limited, by the quantity of food they may chance to meet with, either in the streets or in the burying grounds. Their provision is therefore scanty, and they appear half starved. In some quarters of the towns they, for a time, enjoy a more ample supply by the charity of such Turks as, by will, have left legacies to feed the dogs which frequent their districts. In these the dogs become more numerous, and bear exact proportion to their increase of food.

In the human race the same law prevails. Hence it is, that hunting nations are the most limited in numbers. Dr. Franklin informed Dr. Darwin, that one family requires a circle of five miles diameter, that is 16,000 acres, to supply itself with game. To relieve their wants, as their numbers increase, they never fail to make encroachments on the hunting ground of the surrounding nations. Hence their wars are frequent and bloody. Of such conflicts we have in our island a memorable example upon record, in the well-known song of Chevy Chase. In North America, the various nations, which inhabit those extensive wastes, have no other cause for war.

Nomade nations may be more numerous than hunters, because their food is more abundant. Thirty acres in pasture will yield more sustenance than 16,000 acres allotted to the chace. Yet even nomade nations feel themselves straitened, and strive incessantly to extend their pastures. This proved a source for strife between the herdsmen of Abraham and of Lot. These patriarchs had flocks, herds, and tents, which increased progressively, till the land was not able to bear them. Emigration was the consequence; and Lot, finding the plain of Jordan well watered and unoccupied, took possession. Gen. 13. Had this plain been occupied, and no other pasture land unoccupied, he would have sought a settlement by arms.

Among the Tartar hordes, as among the Kalmucks, the Mongols, the Buriates, and the Kinguir Cossacks, a mortal enmity subsists, cherished incessantly by want of more extensive pastures to meet their increase of population. For this reason, they have, from time to time, sent out numerous swarms to the southern provinces of Europe, and of Asia, and even of North America.

When nomade nations turn to agriculture, the boundaries of famine are immediately removed, the fruits of the earth become abundant, and the population hastens to keep pace with this increase of food. Under tillage, five acres of good land may be sufficient for one family. Therefore the population of a country may arrive at this proportion without suffering want. Beyond this proportion the inhabitants feel a pressure, which they become impatient to remove. Not therefore finding sufficient aliment for the increasing multitude, they have constantly invaded with an armed force the possessions of their neighbours.

Thus, about two centuries after the Israelites had established themselves in Canaan, the Midianites and Amalekites came upon them like locusts, both they and their camels without number to devour the fruits of the earth, leaving no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass. (Judg. vi. 1—4.)

In the result the invading army lost 120,000 men, who drew the sword. (Judg. viii. 10). Thus their numbers were diminished, and this was precisely the same as if their food had been increased.

In the present day, the *Tatars* of Ufa and the Bashkirs, who live by tillage, when they have exhausted the soil in one district, wander in search of more fertile spots, that they

may find provisions for their increasing multitudes. (Pallas Voyage, Tom. II. p. 6 & 86.)

A curious fact has been recorded by Clavigero, a native of Mexico. He informs us, that Anahuac was peopled first by the Chiapanese, then A. D. 648, by the Toltecas, after they had wandered 134 years. These tribes were succeeded by the Chechemecas, A. D. 1170. Eight years after this came the Nahuattacas, conducted by their chiefs; then the Acolhuas; and finally, twenty years after them, the Mexicans. These last, in their peregrinations, arrived A. D. 1196, at Tula, where they remained nine years. From thence they removed to Trompanco, and A. D. 1245 to Chapoltepec. In 1262, they came to Acolco, in 1314 to Colhuacan, and about A. D. 1325, they laid the foundation of their city.

It appears by the most authentic records, that all nations have increased their population to the full extent of their ability to feed their increasing numbers; after which, when occasion offered, they issued forth to seek new settlements by arms.

From Cæsar's Commentaries, we learn that all the irruptions of the Gauls originated in want of food. They increased and multiplied, till they felt themselves straitened and distressed for want of sustenance; and then they issued forth in search of more extensive boundaries, or more fertile lands. From the year of Rome 365, to the year 700, they were defeated more than sixteen times by the Romans, and lost in battle more than one million of their men. The end they aimed at, however, was attained, because by the diminution of their numbers the proportion of food for the survivors was increased.

In favourable circumstances, the human species doubles its numbers in given periods. In Europe, it has been said by our best writers on political economy, it requires five hundred years to double the population. But, in the back settlements of America, where all have plenty of provisions, and where consequently most people marry young, the inhabitants double their numbers in fifteen years.

To understand this matter, let us suppose one male and one female to be cast on a desert island, the man aged 21, the woman 19. Of their offspring let us suppose four to live for breeding stock, two boys and two girls. And, in conformity to this statement, each successive couple may have a like number of children allotted to them. We shall suppose these to live, on the average, sixty years; but our calculation will not be much affected should we give them only fifty years. After the example of their progenitors, the men are to marry at 21, the women at 19.

Now, on these suppositions, we shall have, at the end of sixty-seven years, twenty-four persons; but in 129 they will be 208, that is, they will be found at this time to have doubled their numbers nearly every fifteen years.

It is remarkable, that the Israelites in Egypt doubled their numbers every twenty-seven years.

Wargentin makes a calculation, that Adam and Eve, before their death, might have seen two hundred and fifty millions of their offspring. (Act. Stock 1755, p. 11.)

Supposing this offspring to have doubled every twenty years, in six hundred years they would have been two thousand millions; so rapid is the progress of population.

But still the population of every country will find limits, because the quantity of food is limited.

In my observations on the Poor Laws, published in the year 1785, and in my Spanish Travels, I endeavoured to establish the principles of population, and to point out the usual causes of depopulation.

[*To be concluded in our next.*]

On the ORIGIN *of* LANGUAGE.

SIR,

IT has long been disputed, and as a subject not susceptible of demonstration must ever continue to be so, whether language be of divine or human origin? It is a topic which has employed the ingenuity of many; and every one has imagined his own theory to be right. Amidst such a diversity of opinions, and *merely as a matter of speculation*, perhaps the following theory may not be unworthy of your attention. That it is *original* in one sense I can safely

aver, for I have never seen the idea in any writer: but that no other writer has had the same thoughts I am not so well prepared to affirm.

The most general idea is, that language is the gift of the creator; but then it has been found impossible to conceive how language could have become general, unless we suppose that God bestowed distinct languages upon different nations. Society could not precede language, for how could a sufficient number of individuals be influenced by that similarity of motive and that correspondence necessary to induce them to coalesce? As a universal language therefore does not prevail, the variety of them may perhaps be accounted for in the following manner:

Mankind, in the primitive ages, were divided into distinct tribes or families, and as they lived by hunting or pasturage they were, of course, frequently separated from each other. Is it difficult to conceive that these tribes, thus separated, would, each of them, form a rude kind of speech enabling them to follow their pursuits with conveniency, and that they would assign arbitrary denominations to the objects they most frequently saw or most frequently handled? But, as they were divided one from the other, it is obvious they would differ greatly, if not entirely, in the conventional terms which they had adopted to express their ideas. Now, language being the great medium by which human intercouse is carried on, these different tribes or families having thus created to themselves each their peculiar dialect, would find an insuperable bar to their future coalition: their language would necessarily disunite them, and by degrees the idea of association would be lost: each tribe would intermarry with each other, enlarge its numbers, and propagate their own peculiar dialect: they would become more and more distinct from habits, customs, and manners, their own growth; and, at length, begin to view other tribes as a different race of beings. Pursuing this idea, I can imagine that I behold in this early, though accidental separation of primitive mankind, the embryos of kingdoms, discriminated as we now find them by language and by habits. How, otherwise, can it be that a mountain or a river divides two nations that have no one point in common?

Such, Sir, is the rude outline of an idea, upon which I could build an extensive theory: its obvious simplicity is such, that it may perhaps have suggested itself to others; but as I before stated, at this moment I know of no competitor, and therefore it is my own.

I remain, &c.

Ilchester, Feb. 9, 1808. X. Y.

An Account *of the* Commerce *of* France *with* Germany, *the* Austrian Possessions *in that Country and in* Flanders, *and with* Poland *and* Prussia.

At the conclusion of Louis XIV.'s reign, the imports into France from all these countries amounted to the sum of nine million francs, divided into three grand classes, viz. 1st, Manufactures to the value of 3,700,000 francs. 2dly, Raw materials, 3,000,000. 3dly, Wines, eatables, &c. 2,300,000 francs. At the time of the revolution the imports amounted to about 64 million francs, viz. 1st, Manufactured goods, such as linens and Flemish laces; ribbons, mercery, and hardware, from Germany, 31 million. 2dly, Raw materials, especially coal, from Austrian Hainault; flax, hemp, and flax and hemp-seed, from Flanders; wool, hemp, copper, pewter, and pot-ash, from Germany, Poland, and Prussia, 19 million. 3dly, Vegetables, wines, (those of the Rhine in particular) and German and Flemish cattle, 13,700,000 francs.

The exports for the said countries, at the end of the reign of Louis XIV. amounted to the sum of 14,100,000 francs, forming three classes, viz. 1st, Manufactories 5,100,000 francs. 2dly, Raw materials 2 million. 3dly, Wines, brandies, minerals, fruits, &c. 7 million francs. At the time of the revolution the exports were computed at 95,600,000 francs, and may be divided into five classes, viz. 1st, Manufactured articles, particularly silken stuffs, embroidered with gold and silver for the sovereignties and principalities of Germany and Poland; and lawns and woollen stuffs for the

hereditary possessions of the House of Austria in Germany and Flanders, to the value of 39,100,000 francs. 2dly, Raw materials, such as wool and coal, for Austrian Flanders and Germany, to the value of 12,900,000 francs. 3dly, Wines and brandies for Flanders, Germany, Poland, and Prussia, 10 million. 4thly, Colonial produce, such as sugar, coffee, &c. destined for the states of the House of Austria, and for the ports of the king of Prussia at the entrance of the Baltic, 22 million. 5thly, Animals, vegetables, and minerals, for Flanders and Germany, 11 million francs.

From the foregoing analysis of their commerce, it will appear, that France derives the greatest advantage from her intercourse with Germany and Poland, for to these countries the French send the productions of their own soil, and in return receive raw materials, which afford subject for the exercise of their industry, in addition to which, a balance is paid to France of from 20 to 25 million francs per annum, *in cash*. This sum only includes the balance paid by the princes of Germany, Poland, and the Austrian possessions; but the total balance paid to France by all the countries of whose commerce we treat, is computed at 31,600,000 francs annually. There is every reason to think, that Prussia, which daily extends its maritime concerns, is the carrier between Germany and France, supplying the former with the wines and colonial produce of the latter. As to the hereditary possessions of the house of Austria in Germany and Flanders, it is probable that the exchanges between them and France are nearly on a footing of equality at this epoch, although the *apparent* result of the mutual traffic is, that France is the debtor to the amount of one or two million francs annually; for it is to be remarked, that Joseph II. eager for every kind of success, rigorously prohibited the importation of foreign manufactures. In consequence of this prohibition, the French commerce with the states of that monarch, for some time was carried on in an oblique direction, and the result was that the *real* balance existing between the two countries could not be ascertained with any degree of certainty. Hence we are led to imagine that France and Austria carried on in Flanders and Germany, a pretty equal traffic. In fact, the Austrian power possessed in the linen clothes of Flanders a considerable advantage over France; but the latter made up for this by her supplies to Austria of wines, brandies, and of colonial produce; the value of which latter is computed at 15 million francs annually. It is however, certain that French industry is not, nor ever has been, materially benefited by the commerce carried on with Austria.

The traffic between Germany and France is carried on by means of the rivers Rhine, Moselle, Meuse, &c. through Alsace, and by way of Holland and Prussia.

GRAY *and* CICERO.

SIR,

THE merits of Gray's poetry having been much agitated lately in the pages of the Universal Magazine, permit me to point out the probable source of one of his most beautiful images. In the "Progress of Poesy" are the following exquisite lines; speaking of Dryden's lyric productions, he says,

Hark! his hands the lyre explore!
Bright eyed fancy hovering o'er,
Scatters from her pictur'd urn
Thoughts that breathe, and words that burn.

Cowley has a line,

"Words that weep, and tears that speak,"

from which Gray has been said to borrow the idea in the last line of the above quotation; but I think we may trace it to a higher source; at least one part. Gray was an enthusiastic admirer of classical learning, and from the expression "faces dicendi," of Cicero (*Orat.* ii. 5.) I think he borrowed his idea. Gray's phrase, indeed, may be considered as a beautiful and poetical translation of that of Cicero's.

Permit me, Mr. Editor, to take this opportunity of returning my thanks for your insertion of my letter respecting the word "furrow," in the above author. It has produced several letters from your intelligent correspondents: but *Metaphor* in your last number, has clearly, though ironically, illustrated the passage and cleared every difficulty. I can forgive him the sar-

casm contained in his first paragraph, in consideration of the acquisition of a new idea. He has satisfied me as to the meaning of Gray; but I am still persuaded that the word *furrow* has some local or provincial meaning, distinct from its usual one. About that, however, I am not now very solicitous. Gray is vindicated from error, and I hope Mr. Park will see the letter of *Metaphor*, and be ashamed of his own error, in wantonly substituting another word in his edition of the poets, without assigning any reason for the alteration.

I remain, &c.

Bath, Feb. 7, 1808. H. G.

Memoirs *of* Henry Kirke White.

[*Concluded from p.* 55.]

THE poems, however, which had been thus condemned, attracted the notice of Mr. Southey; and some of his friends, to whom he shewed them, were also struck with their merit. This induced Mr. Southey to write to him a letter of encouragement, and offering to assist him to the utmost of his power, should he print another volume by subscription. This letter Henry answered in a grateful manner, and expressed to Mr. Southey all the grief and disappointment which he felt at the cruel, unjust, and ignorant criticisms of the Monthly Review. Henry knew not how little influence reviews have with men of real judgment; and fancying that the Monthly, because the oldest, was therefore the best, he felt as if all his hopes were cut off by its censure; but Mr. Southey's kind and friendly assurances revived them, and probably taught him to return to a proper estimation of his powers.

About this time Mr. Pigott, the curate of St. Mary's, Nottingham, hearing that the bent of Henry's religious opinions was towards deism, sent him, by a friend, Scott's Force of Truth, and requested him to read it attentively, which he promised to do. Having looked at the book, he told the person who brought it to him, that he could soon write an answer to it; but about a fortnight afterwards, when this friend enquired how far he had proceeded in his answer to Mr. Scott, Henry's reply was in a very different tone and temper. He said, that to answer that book was out of his power, and out of any man's, for it was formed upon eternal truth; that it had convinced him of his error; and that so thoroughly was he impressed with a sense of the importance of his maker's favour, that he would willingly give up all acquisitions of knowledge, and all hopes of of fame, and live in a wilderness unknown, till death, so he could insure an inheritance in heaven.

From this time religion occupied much of his attention; and as a person of his ardent temperament could embrace nothing cold, he soon became enthusiastic upon the subject. His letters are full of piety; in some instances, indeed, they struck us as being tinctured with a certain religious cant, which seems to be inseparable from an inordinate adoption of religious ideas. Henry now resolved to give up all ideas of the law, and at all events, to become a minister of the gospel, if not of the established church, among the dissenters; but the former was his preference. He of course wished to place himself at one of the Universities, if possible. The gentlemen to whom he was articled, willingly and liberally consented to give him up the remainder of his time (though he was now becoming of great use to them) whenever they saw a rational prospect of his ultimate success in getting into one of the Universities. After some exertions the difficulties seemed so great against him, that he finally relinquished the hope of succeeding, and the law became again his apparent destination. To recover, therefore, the time that he had lost in preparing himself for College, he returned with redoubled ardour to his legal studies; he would not, he told his mother, "be a *mediocre* attorney." This severe application injured his health, for he scarcely allowed himself the needful hours of rest; he became pale and thin, and at length had a sharp fit of sickness. On his recovery he wrote the following exquisitely beautiful lines in the church-yard of his favourite village:

Here would I wish to sleep.—This is the spot
Which I have long mark'd out to lay my bones in;

Tir'd out and wearied with the riotous world,
Beneath this yew I would be sepulchred.
It is a lovely spot! The sultry sun
From his meridian height, endeavours vainly
To pierce the shadowy foliage, while the zephyr
Comes wafting gently o'er the rippling Trent,
And plays about my wan cheek. 'Tis a nook
Most pleasant.—Such a one perchance did Gray
Frequent, as with the vagrant muse he wanton'd.
Come, I will sit me down and meditate,
For I am wearied with my summer's walk;
And here I may repose in silent ease;
And thus, perchance, when life's sad journey's o'er,
My harass'd soul, in this same spot, may find
The haven of its rest—beneath this sod
Perchance may sleep it sweetly, sound as death.

I would not have my corpse cemented down
With brick and stone, defrauding the poor earth worm
Of its predestin'd dues; no I would lie
Beneath a little hillock, grass o'ergrown,
Swath'd down with oziers, just as sleep the cotters.
Yet may not *undistinguish'd* be my grave,
But there at eve may some congenial soul
Duly resort, and shed a pious tear,
The good man's benizon—no more I ask.
And oh! (if heavenly beings may look down
From where, with cherubim inspir'd, they sit,
Upon this little dim-discover'd spot,
The earth) then will I cast a glance *below*
On him who thus my ashes shall embalm;
And I will weep too, and will bless the wanderer,
Wishing he may not long be doom'd to pine
In this low-thoughted world of darkling woe,
But that, ere long, he reach his kindred skies.

Yet, 'twas a silly thought—as if the body,
Mouldering beneath the surface of the earth,
Could taste the sweets of summer scenery,
And feel the freshness of the balmy breeze!
Yet nature speaks within the human bosom,
And, spite of reason, bids it look beyond
His narrow verge of being, and provide
A decent residence for its clayey shell,
Endear'd to it by time. And who would lay
His body in the city burial place,
To be thrown up again by some rude Sexton,
And yield its narrow house another tenant,
Ere the moist flesh had mingled with the dust,
Ere the tenacious hair had left the scalp,
Expos'd to insult lewd, and wantonness!
No, I will lay me in the *village* ground;
There are the dead respected. The poor hind,
Unletter'd as he is, would scorn to invade
The silent resting place of death. I've seen
The labourer, returning from his toil,
Here stay his steps, and call his children round,
And slowly spell the rudely sculptur'd rhymes,
And, in his rustic manner, moralize.
I've mark'd with what a silent awe he'd spoken,
With head uncover'd, his respectful manner,
And all the honours which he paid the grave,
And thought on cities, where ev'n cemeteries,
Bestrew'd with all the emblems of mortality,
Are not protected from the drunken insolence
Of wassailers profane, and wanton havoc.
Grant Heav'n, that here my pilgrimage may close!
Yet, if this be deny'd, where'er my bones
May lie—or in the city's crouded bounds,
Or scatter'd wide o'er the huge sweep of waters,
Or left a prey on some deserted shore
To the rapacious cormorant, yet still,
(For why should sober reason cast away
A thought which soothes the soul)—yet still my spirit
Shall wing its way to these my native regions,
And hover o'er this spot. Oh, then I'll think
Of times when I was seated 'neath this yew
In solemn rumination; and will smile
With joy that I have got my long'd release.

His friends were of opinion that he never completely recovered this shock, and many of his poems, both before and after this period, indicate that he thought himself in a consumption.

His hopes of College were once more revived, and promised now to be fulfilled. A Mr. Dashwood procured for him an introduction to Mr. Simeon, of King's College, and with

this he was induced to go to Cambridge. Mr. Simeon, from the recommendation which he received, and from the conversation he had with him, promised to procure for him a sizarship at St. John's, and to supply him with 36*l.* annually, of which it afterwards appeared, 20*l.* were from Mr. Wilberforce, and the remainder from himself. His brother Neville, promised 20*l.* and his mother, it was hoped, would be able to allow fifteen or twenty more. Things being finally arranged, he quitted his employers in October, 1804.

Mr. Simeon had advised him to *degrade* for a year, and place himself, during that time, under some scholar. He accordingly went to the Rev. —— Grainger, of Winteringham, in Lincolnshire, and there, notwithstanding all the entreaties of his friends, pursuing the same unrelenting course of study, a second illness was the consequence. When he was recovering, he was prevailed on to relax, to ride on horseback, and drink wine; these latter remedies he could not long afford, and he would not allow himself time for relaxation, when he did not feel its immediate necessity. He frequently at this time studied fourteen hours a day.

During his first term, one of the University scholarships became vacant; and Henry, young as he was in College, and almost self-taught, was advised to offer himself as a competitor. To qualify himself for this he underwent extraordinary labours, and after the examinations he was pronounced the first man of his year. But he felt, and knew the price he paid for these honours; to an intimate friend, the last time he saw him, he said "that were he to paint a picture of fame, crowning a distinguished under-graduate, after the senate-house examination, he would represent her as concealing a death's head under a mask of beauty."

The exercise which Henry took was no relaxation, for he still continued the habit of studying while he walked; and in this manner he committed to his memory a whole tragedy of Euripides. Twice he distinguished himself in the following year, being again pronounced first at the great College examination, and also one of the three best theme-writers, between whom the examiners could not decide. Mr. Catton procured him an exhibition to the amount of 60*l.* per annum, which enabled him to give up the pecuniary assistance which he had received from Mr. Wilberforce and Mr. Simeon. But this accumulation of honors was a poison to young Henry; they stimulated him to fresh exertions, and his life was gradually wasting away. He went to London, and when he returned to College, he was so completely ill, that no power of medicine could save him. His mind was worn out, and it was the opinion of his medical attendants, that if he had recovered, his intellect would have been affected. His brother Neville was just at that time to have visited him. When he arrived Henry was delirious. He knew him only for a few moments: the next day sunk into a state of torpor; and on Sunday, October 19, 1806, closed his earthly career.

We regretted much that Mr. Southey did not add an account of his funeral, and particularly of his burial; whether he was interred in his favourite Wilford church-yard. Nothing respecting so interesting a character could be misplaced. We shall conclude this brief account with the following particulars, which Mr. Southey has added at the end of the biography:

"The will which I had manifested to serve Henry, he had accepted as the deed, and had expressed himself upon the subject in terms which it would have humbled me to read, at any other time than when I was performing the last service to his memory. On his decease, Mr. B. Maddock addressed a letter to me, informing me of the event, as one who had professed an interest in his friend's fortunes. I enquired, in my reply, if there was any intention of publishing what he might have left, and if I could be of any assistance in the publication; this led to a correspondence with his excellent brother, and the whole of his papers were consigned into my hands, with as many of his letters as could be collected.

"These papers exclusive of the correspondence) filled a box of consi-

derable size. Mr. Coleridge was present when I opened them, and was, as well as myself, equally affected and astonished at the proofs of industry which they displayed. Some of them had been written before his hand was formed, probably before he was thirteen. There were papers upon law, upon electricity, upon chemistry, upon the Latin and Greek languages, from their rudiments, to the higher branches of critical study, upon history, chronology, divinity, the fathers, &c. Nothing seemed to have escaped him. His poems were numerous; among the earliest, was a sonnet addressed to myself, long before the little intercourse which had subsisted between us, had taken place. Little did he think, when it was written, on what occasion it would fall into my hands. He had begun three tragedies when very young; one was upon Boadicea, another upon Inez de Castro: the third was a fictitious subject. He had planned also a History of Nottingham. There was a letter upon the famous Nottingham election, which seemed to have been intended, either for the newspapers, or for a separate pamphlet. It was written to confute the absurd stories of the Tree of Liberty, and the Goddess of Reason; with the most minute circumstances, and a not improper feeling of indignation against so infamous a calumny; and this came with more weight from him, as his party inclinations seemed to have leaned towards the side which he was opposing. This was his only finished composition in prose. Much of his time, latterly, had been devoted to the study of Greek prosody; he had begun several poems in Greek, and a translation of the Samson Agonistes. I have inspected all the existing manuscripts of Chatterton, and they excited less wonder than these.

"Had my knowledge of Henry terminated here, I should have hardly believed that my admiration and regret for him could have been increased; but I had yet to learn that his moral qualities, his good sense, and his whole feelings, were as admirable as his industry and genius. All his letters to his family have been communicated to me without reserve, and most of those to his friends. A selection from these are arranged in chronological order, in these volumes, which will make him his own biographer, and lay open to the world as pure, and as excellent a heart, as it ever pleased the Almighty to warm with life. Much has been suppressed, which, if Henry had been, like Chatterton, of another generation, I should willingly have published, and the world would willingly have received; but in doing honour to the dead, I have been scrupulously careful never to forget the living."

*** *We shall resume this subject in a subsequent number, by instituting a critical estimation of Henry Kirke White's powers, and giving specimens of his poetry.*

FELLTHAMIANA.

Sir,

HE who has been much accustomed to look into old books, feels convinced that beneath the dust of years, and the uncouth appearance of antiquated orthography, rest many valuable stores of wit, fancy, elegance, and wisdom. Some authors indeed, of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, enveloped their genius in such studied peculiarities of expression and manner, that even in their own times they were ancient; whilst others, with that power of genius which seems to anticipate the progress of ages, have caught so admirable a medium, that centuries have only rendered them modern. Of this description (in my mind) is he to whose works I am now anxious to call your attention, and that of your readers.

Of "RESOLVES, A DUPLE CENTURY, BY OWEN FELLTHAM," little, perhaps nothing, is known to the general reader. Yet there is no one book in the English language, which I consider as containing so vast a fund of sound practical morality, wisdom, brilliant fancy, and (for the times in which it was written) elegant diction. It is not a *rare* book, in regard to the number of copies extant, for I have seen it upon many book stalls in the metropolis; but it is a *very rare* book, both in its contents and its popularity.

I am therefore induced to believe, that a page occupied each month in your magazine, with extracts of *entire* essays, will not be uninterestingly employed.

One singularity respecting this author, is that no biographical work whatsoever, has given the least account of him; yet his "Resolves" have passed through *twelve* editions. The copy which I have is the *sixth*, bearing the imprint of "London, printed for Henry Seile, and are to be sold at the signe of the Tigres-head, in St. Paule's Church-yard, 1636." It has a curiously engraved title-page, with a poetical explanation on the opposite page. The book is a quarto size. Some of your readers, perhaps, may not easily comprehend the meaning of the title—"Resolves, a duple Century"—but the latter words imply that the volume contains *two hundred Essays*. The first and second *centuries* were published at different times, but in subsequent editions they formed only one volume.

I believe there was, a few years ago, a sort of abstract of this work, published by a person of the name of Feltham; and in the year 1806, a Mr. Cumming republished the whole of them, with an attempt at a life of the author; but that subject is, in fact, yet an undiscovered secret.

If you concur with me in opinion, Mr. Editor, as to the interest and advantage of this selection, I shall be glad to see the following extracts inserted in your next Magazine. I shall retain the old orthography, for it gives a sort of character to the sentiments.

I remain, &c.

Oxford, Feb. 4, 1808. W. P.

I shall commence with the preface to the first "Century," and in which the reader will find a reason for *broad margins*, which no modern adept in that art has ever yet stumbled upon.

"To the Readers.

"I *am to answer two* Objections: *One, that I have made use of* Storie, *yet not quoted my* Authorities; *and this I have* purposely *done. It had beene all one Labour, inserting the* matter, *to give them both the* Author, *and* place. *But while I am not* Controversiall, *I should onely have troubled the* Text, *or spotted a* Margent, *which I alwayes wish to leave free, for the* Comments *of the man that reades. Besides, I doe not professe myselfe a* Scholer: *and for a* Gentleman, *I hold it a little* pedanticall. *He should use them rather, as brought in by* Memorie, raptim, *and* occasionall; *than by* Studie, search, *or strict* collection: *especially in* Essay, *which of all writing, is the neerest to a running* Discourse. *I have so used them, as you may see I doe not* steal, *but* borrow. *If I doe, let the* Reader *trace me*; *and if he will, or can, to my shame* discover: *there is no cheating, like the* Felonie *of* Wit; *He which theeves* that, *robs the* Owner, *and coozens those that heare him.*

"*The next is, for the* Poetrie; *wherein, indeed, I have beene* strict, *yet would be* full. *I my opinion, they disgrace our* Language, *that will not give a* Latine *Verse his* English, *under two for one. I confesse, the* Latine (*besides the curiousnesse of the* Tongue) *hath in every* Verse, *the advantage of three or foure* Syllables; *yet if a man will labour for't, he may turne it as* short, *and I beleeve, as* full. *And for this, some late* Translations *are my proofe. What you finde here, if you please, like: But remember alwayes, To censure a* Resolve *in the middle, is to give your* Iudgement *a possibilitie of erring. If you aske, why I* writ *them? 'Twas because I lov'd my* Studie: *If, why I* publish *them? Know, that having no other meanes to shew myselfe to the* World, *so well, I chose this, not to* boast, *but because I would not deceive.*"

The next shall be the eighty-eighth "Resolve," on Musick, in which, with some quaintness, there is much truth and fancy.

"*Diogenes* spake right of *Musicke*, when hee told one that bragg'd of his *skill*; That *Wisedome* govern'd *Cities*; but with *Songs*, and *Measures*, a *House* would not be order'd well. Certainely, it is more for *pleasure*, than any *profit* of *Man*. Being but a *sound*, it onely workes on the *minde* for the *present*; and leaves it not *reclaimed*, but *rap't* for a while: and then it returnes, forgetting the onely *eare-deepe warbles*. It is but the *wanton'd Ayre*, and the *Titillation* of that *spirited Element*. Wee may see this, in that 'tis onely in hollowed *Instruments*, which gather in

the stirred *Ayre*, and so cause a *sound* in the *Motion*. The *advantage* it gaines upon the *Minde*, is in respect of the neernesse it hath to the *spirits composure*, which being *Æthereall*, and *harmonious*, must needs delight in that which is like them. Besides, when the *Ayre* is thus *moved*, it comes by degrees to the *eare*, by whose *winding entrance*, it is made more *pleasant*, and by that *in-essent Ayre*, carried to the *Auditorie Nerve*, which *presents* it to the *common sense*, and so to the *intellectuall*. Of all *Musicke*, that is best which comes from an *articulate voice*. Whether it be, that *man* cannot make an *Instrument* so *melodious*, as that which *God* made, living *Man*: or, because there is something in this, for the *rationall part*, as well as for the *eare* alone. In this also, that is best, which comes with a carelesse *freenesse*, and a kind of a neglective *easinesse*; *Nature* being alwayes most *lovely*, in an *unaffected*, and *spontuneous flowing*. A *dexterious Art*, shewes *cunning*, and *industrie*, rather than *judgement*, and *ingenuitie*. It is a kind of *disparagement*, to bee a cunning *Fidler*. It argues his *neglect* of better *imployment*, and that he hath spent much *time* upon a thing *unnecessarie*. Hence it hath beene counted ill, for great *Ones* to *sing*, or *play*, like an *Arted Musician*. *Philip* ask'd *Alexander*, if hee were not *ashamed*, that hee *sang* so *artfully*. And indeed, it softens the *mind*; The *curiositie* of it, is fitter for *Women* than *Men*, and for *Curtezons* than *Women*. Among other Descriptions of a *Romane Dame*; *Salust* puts it downe for one, that shee did— *Psallere, & saltare, elegantius, quàm necesse est probæ*. But yet againe 'tis pitty, that these should be so *excellent*, in that which hath such *power* to *fascinate*. It were well, *Vice* were barr'd of all her helpes of *wooing*. Many a *minde* hath beene *angled* unto *ill*, by the *Eare*. It was *Stratonice*, that tooke *Mithridates* with a *Song*. For as the *Notes* are *framed*, it can *draw*, and *incline* the *minde*. Lively *Tunes* doe lighten the *minde*: Grave ones give it *Melancholy*. Loftie ones raise it, and advance it to above. Whose *dull blood* will not caper in his *veines*, when the very *ayre* hee breathes in, *frisketh* in a *tickled motion?* Who can but fix his *eye*, and *thoughts*, when hee heares the *sigh*, and *Dying groanes*, gestur'd from the *mournefull Instrument?* 'And I thinke hee hath not a *minde* well temper'd, whose *zeale* is not inflamed by a *heavenly Antheme*. So that indeed, *Musicke* is *good*, or *bad*, as the *end* to which it tendeth. Surely, they did meane it *excellent*, that made *Apollo*, who was *God* of *Wisedome*, to be *God* of *Musicke* also. But it may be the *Ægyptians*, attributing the *invention* of the *Harpe* to him, the *raritie* and *pleasingnesse* made them so to *honour* him. As the *Spartans* used it, it served still for an *excitation* to *Valour*, and *honourable Actions*; but then they were so carefull of the *manner* of it, as they finde *Terpander*, and nailed his *Harpe* to the *Post*, for being too *inventive*, in adding a *String* more than usuall: Yet had hee done the *State* good service; for hee appeased a *Sedition*, by his *Play*, and *Poetrie*. Sometimes light *Notes* are usefull; as in times of generall *Joy*, and when the *minde* is pressed with *sadnesse*. But certainely, those are best, which inflame *zeale*, incite to *courage*, or induce to *gravitie*. One, is for *Religion*; so the *Iewes:* The other, for *Warre*; so the *Grecians*, and *Romans:* And the last, for *Peace*, and *Moralitie:* Thus *Orpheus* civilized the *Satyres*, and the bad *rude men*. It argues it of some *excellencie*, that 'tis used onely of the most *aëriall creatures*; loved, and understood by *Man* alone; the *Birds* next, have *varietie* of *Notes*. 'The *Beasts*, *Fishes*, and the *Reptilia*, which are of grosser *composition*, have onely *silence*, or untuned *sounds*. They that *despise* it wholly, may well be *suspected*, to be something of a *Savage Nature*. The *Italians* have somewhat a *smart censure*, of those that *affect* it not: They say, *God* loves not him, whom hee hath not made to love *Musicke*. *Aristotles conceit*, that *Ioye* doth never *Harpe*, nor *sing*, I doe not hold a *dispraise*. We find, in *Heaven* there be *Halleluiahs* sung: I beleeve it, as a *helper* both to *good*, and *ill*; and will therefore *honour* it, when it *moves* to *Vertue*; and beware it, when it would *flatter* into *Vice*.

The Contemplatist.

No. VII.

An apology is due to the unfortunate Julia, *for the delay in inserting the following letter; but, from its conclusion, she is, perhaps, ere now, beyond the reach of human voice.* Mors laborum ac miseriarum quies!

TO THE CONTEMPLATIST.

Perfida, sed quamvis perfida, cara tamen.

Sir,

YOUR prompt insertion of my last (see Univ. Mag. Vol. VIII. p. 413.) induces me to continue my narrative without further apology.

Every thing was arranged for my departure from my father's house. Night was the time fixed on, as being the least liable to impertinent intrusion. Henry was to have a post-chaise waiting, which would conduct us to a place of safety; and on the following morning we were to be married. My mind dwelt with raptures upon the scheme, in proportion to its romantic character. It suited my ardent and enthusiastic temperament. There was something so singular, and therefore so pleasing, that the innocence of virtue was scarcely startled at the contemplation of it. I felt no emotion but that of joy, as I prepared the little package that was to accompany me. I took nothing that was not absolutely requisite, for my heart seemed to tell me, that a parent's forgiveness would not be withheld.

These were the gaieties of expectation, in which the present is forgotten, and the future is decorated in all the fair colours that our wishes prompt. Yet, when the moment arrived, my resolution failed, my heart sunk within me, my eyes filled with tears. Twelve o'clock was the hour fixed that Henry would be in waiting at the outer gate. Eleven had struck, and I was sitting in my room, with my small bundle before me, dreading, yet wishing the hour to come. During this silent, solemn interval, the mind had time to revert upon itself, and conjure up a thousand painful images. Thought became oppressive, and yet I had no means to escape from it. I surveyed my chamber, and its dear familiar contents, with eyes that swam in tears; a momentary pang smote me, and seemed to predict that I was for ever to be exiled from it. I took pen, ink, and paper, and resolved to write a few lines to my mother, which I would leave upon my table, to assuage the first paroxysm of grief that would be felt, when my flight was discovered. I had just folded it up when the village clock struck twelve.

Gracious God! Had it tolled me the fatal knell that was to conduct me to a scaffold, I should hardly have felt a more appalling dread come o'er me! I sat for a few moments, lost in conflicting sensations. But I had approached the verge, and now must take the leap. I gently opened my door. I had to pass the chamber where my father and mother slept. Heaven knows with what a bursting heart I did so. Oh! it was a horrid moment! How like a guilty thief I thought myself, who robbed the innocent of all their little wealth, while they slept the sleep of peace. *I* was all *their* wealth, and yet I could inhumanly snatch it from them. I pictured to myself the distraction they would feel when they awoke and found their ruin. But even then, the sophistry of self-gratification came across my mind, and I hushed the terrors of my heart, by whispering to myself that I should soon return, and repair the evil I had done.

I gained the gate, and threw myself, breathless and weeping, into the arms of Henry. He kissed my tears away, and led me trembling to where the carriage was waiting.

It was a clear moonlight night, which, added to the solemn silence of the hour, awoke a thousand emotions in my breast. Henry spoke only in a whisper; and even this seemed to throw so much of guilt into our conduct, that I half recoiled from the step I was taking. But I had no time to think; we were seated in the carriage, and it drove off at a rapid pace.

We travelled all night, and in the morning alighted at an inn, about 30 miles from my father's house. It was with a rapture which words cannot express, that I saw the first break of day glimmering in the east. I felt relieved; and I anticipated the coming morning as the moment which

was to give a holy sanction to my rashness, by uniting me to Henry. Heavens! how shall I proceed!

As we sat at breakfast, I spoke of marriage. Henry smiled. I thought it a smile of love and joy, and my heart was gay. When our repast was over, Henry drew near to me, and taking my hand in his, addressed me.

"Julia, there is a native sanctity in virtue, which no human forms can increase. The heart that is embued with honor and liberal sentiments, needs no other monitor to keep its thoughts in awe, than the proud consciousness that vice degrades, and sullies the breast that owns it. Vulgar minds, a prey to every rude and lawless passion, submit, without a murmur, to their tempestuous sovereignty; and, in the wild career, lose all recollection of themselves, and the society of which they form a part. To such, and such only, can restriction be needful. Ah! those looks tell me you understand me: need I proceed?"

A horrid thought now glanced across my mind! I was breathless—I felt too much—I could not weep—but in a voice, scarcely articulate, I bade him proceed.

"Feel not incensed my Julia," he continued. "When I would throw off the shackles with which a corrupt custom has laden us, I pay the most exalted homage to your virtue, in believing that no ties can make it more sacred, or, that because you have the power to err, your heart would let you."

The full conviction now flashed upon me. Merciful heavens! at that moment I could have annihilated him. Love was extinguished, and rage alone possessed my breast. What! sink into his mistress? Henry, a vile seducer, a crawling reptile, who could lay snares with subtle villainy, and avouch his infamy with words! Oh! the thought was overpowering! I looked at him: it was a look of scorn and defiance: words at length found utterance:

"Monster," I exclaimed—"Oh! for pity's sake, let me not think you so vile and abject. Tell me that it was but jest: tell me that you are honourable. Let me not bewilder myself in horrid thoughts that paint you to my mind more hideous than words can represent."

As I uttered these words, a flood of tears gushed from my eyes, and I resigned myself to all the influence of distracting grief.

Henry, not at all moved by the violence of my emotions, replied, with insulting coolness——"Pshaw! this is but affectation! 'tis wearing the mask longer than even prudish coquetry demands. Come, my Julia! discard the mummery of a diseased mind; come to my arms, lovely as thou art"—

He attempted to embrace me: but with the force and dignity of offended virtue, I threw him from me, and the severity of my looks for a moment awed him into silence.

I was, myself, a prey to the most agonizing sensations that ever rent the human heart. To find in the only object my soul had singled out for its stay and comfort through life, baseness, cruelty, and vice; to behold all my fondest hopes thus wrecked in an instant; to reflect, that I had left my father's hospitable and kindly roof, and must now return to it fallen and insulted.—Oh, what anguish would have been spared me at that moment, what miseries should I not have escaped thereafter, had heaven, in mercy to my affliction, relieved me from a life that had become hateful to me. Yet it all appeared like a dream. But my persecutor soon recalled me to reality.

"Julia," he continued, "I will be candid, condemn me as you may. To marry you I never thought—my situation, my circumstances forbid it. Besides, would I condescend to *steal* away my *wife?*"

"Base, ungenerous man," I replied, "you would condescend to ruin a helpless girl, to ruin a virtuous father and mother—you would condescend to give me and my hopes to endless infamy; to steep my heart in bitterness! Henry, hear me. I loved you once, for I thought you virtuous. You are not what you seemed; that love that seemed to dwell so sweetly on thy deception, is now converted into hate: fly me: leave me, or I'll alarm those within hearing, and denounce your baseness."

The firm, undaunted manner in which I uttered these words had its due effect. He quitted the room, and shortly after the house. He looked with a smile of scorn upon me as he closed the door.

I was now alone, and hesitated not a moment about what was to be done. I had money with me: and I resolved to return immediately to my parents, and hoped to propitiate for my error by the purity of my conduct I knew that the alarm of my flight would soon be spread over the place, and therefore took care not to arrive till dusk. As I entered the street that led to my abode, how my heart sunk within me! I passed along unnoticed, till I arrived at the garden gate that adjoined my paternal mansion. A melancholy silence seemed to prevail: no one was to be seen: the moon, just risen, cast a silver radiance upon the foliage; I walked, musing, for a few moments: how changed, methought already, from that time when I walked in peace on this very spot with my beloved parents. The thought was resolution, and I hoped, once more, to find within that little space my wonted happiness. As I approached towards the house I perceived a light in a small parlour, where I had often sat with my work, and watched the setting sun as it shed a golden lustre over the landscape. I advanced slowly; the window-shutters were half closed: and I could just perceive my mother sitting, with a handkerchief up to her eyes: God! how my heart smote me! my father was pacing up and down the room in seeming agitation. While I thus stood gazing, with eyes that swam in tears, my favourite spaniel had discovered me, and was whining at my feet: his noise brought out one of the female servants, who, seeing me, exclaimed, with a shriek of joy, "Oh! my young lady!" In an instant afterwards I was sobbing with repentance on my mother's paternal bosom. But my father—Ah! rash severity! tore me from her arms, proclaimed me infamous, and forbad me his house! Oh man! of what materials is thy heart composed? Is it to ape a Roman name that thus ye shut your feelings against approach, and seem to triumph in the ignorance of mercy. A daughter locked within a mother's fond embrace, weeping, innocent, and repentant, who could turn her to the world's scorn, infamy, and want, that ever felt a father's transport in his child? When parents teach this cruel lesson, shall we wonder that indifferent minds learn it with too apt a perfection?

He forcibly dragged my mother from me, ordered the servants in, and closed the door! I stood motionless: the magnitude of my feelings absorbed the power of perceiving them; I looked towards my paternal roof, my home, my asylum, my birth-place, and found myself for ever exiled: I heard my mother's cries for her abandoned child: my mind pictured horrors: I tottered towards the door to call for mercy and forgiveness, and fell senseless at the threshold.

How long I lay thus I know not. When I came to myself I was cold and comfortless; the dews of the night had fallen upon me, and my limbs trembled: my poor *Fido*, my faithful spaniel, was lying by my side, with his fore feet resting across my bosom, as if to preserve there the vital warmth. I felt as I had been in a dream. Confused thoughts rushed across my mind: Henry—father—mother—an outcast. I started up and strove to enter: but no: all was fast; all was dark and silent within. I went round to the other side of the house, where my mother slept: there was a light in her chamber: even this seemed to comfort me: but my sighs and wailings were audible; they reached a mother's ear: her window opened softly, and I saw, for the last time, that honoured form which bore me: involuntarily I fell upon my knees, held forth my hands in a supplicating manner, and stammered out the word "forgiveness." She took the ribbon from her head, and threw it towards me as a token of pardon, and exclaimed "God protect thee, my Julia." More she would have said, but my father's voice called her hence. Ten thousand times I kissed the precious pledge, and have since preserved it as a holy relic, that shall charm me in the hour of death.

Hope now forsook me; I left the garden, and wandered I know not

whither, till the morning dawned upon me. I repaired to the house of a dear friend, who, I knew, would be a mediator between me and my offended father. When she heard my story she wept with tenderest pity, bade me be comforted, and spoke with confidence of my father's forgiveness, when he should know that I was yet innocent. She left me with strong assurances of success; but returned with anguish to tell me that nor prayers, nor tears, nor intreaties, could soften that inexorable heart.

Thus abandoned, I looked round to see whither I should turn my forlorn course. To stay in my native place was impossible; I must fly somewhere. London was the spot where best we may be forgotten, and thither I resolved to go. In the menial employment of a servant I hoped to find a refuge from necessity. Yet, ere I quitted for ever, scenes twined round my heart, by the remembrance of the happiest hours there passed that ever gladdened the human heart, I took a last farewell of them. I stole at midnight once more to my beloved home, walked over every place that had been dear to me, looked with tearful eyes upon the little room where was my library, and in which I had wept o'er fictitious woes less than my own; and, as I turned away, bade them adieu for ever!

I will not, Sir, detail to you the rest of my miserable life. In London I found that the purest intentions were of no avail without friends. I offered myself wherever I thought I could get employment; but I was uniformly rejected, sometimes with contempt, sometimes with ridicule, and sometimes with insult. The little money I had was soon expended, and I had now before my eyes the horrid prospect of a wretched death. From self-annihilation I shrunk back appalled: not from any dread of the future, but from irresolution to inflict voluntary pain. When life is held upon contingencies, the props of virtue are shaken: while there is a prize to struggle for, the labour is asswaged; but when contumely imputes the vices which are yet unacted, it requires fortitude to stem the current of temptation. Poverty, in the minds of the million, is synonimous with crime: I was soon taught this bitter lesson. You will consider these, perhaps, but weak palliatives; let no one dare, however, to condemn me for falling till they have withstood the same weight.

A life of prostitution is a life of unmitigated wretchedness: but my career in infamy has been short. I write this on that bed from which I shall never rise again: the constant agony of an upbraiding conscience has preyed upon my vitals, and I hail with joy that moment which is to free me from misery. I shall stand before my judge, and my father shall stand there too: my crimes shall be read aloud, and every one fall like a thunderbolt upon his ear: my punishment shall be declared, and he too shall fall beneath the frown of God; for, not a vice has stained my life that draws not its origin from his cruel severity. Forgive me, Sir, that I have thus trespassed on your time; but there are those who may, perhaps, reap advantage from the narrative of the dying

London, H—y-street, JULIA.
Dec. 11, 1807.

THE BEE.—No. VII.

BRINDLEY.

THIS celebrated engineer was a man of singular character. When he had a plan to form, he usually went to bed, and lay there working it out in his head till the design was completed. It is recorded of him, that being asked in the House of Commons for what he supposed rivers were created, he answered after a pause, to feed navigable canals.

KING WILLIAM III.

This prince was passionately fond of hunting; and he made it a point of honour never to be outdone in any leap, however perilous. A certain Mr. Cherry, who was devoted to the exiled family, took occasion of this, to form perhaps the most pardonable design which was ever laid against a king's life. He regularly joined the royal hounds, put himself foremost, and took the most desperate leaps, in the hope that William might break his neck in following him. One day, however, he accomplished one so

imminently dangerous, that the king when he came to the spot, shook his head and drew back.

SALMON.

This fish is now somewhat scarce in Worcester; but there were such quantities formerly, that there are many old indentures now in Worcester, by which it is covenanted, that apprentices shall not be compelled to eat salmon more than twice a week, as is now the case with the ploughmen in Devonshire, and the fishermen's boys at North Shields.

POLISH DANCES.

The *Polonaise* is little more than a march in file (as nearly as may be in a figure of eight) to music, soft and slow, bordering upon the solemn. If a gentleman who has stood out, is desirous of coming in, he approaches the leading couple, claps his hand, and the hand of the lady is yielded to him, himself being liable to be displaced in a similar manner. During the march, is made every now and then a certain step, trifling, yet difficult to take—a movement of the feet so obscure as scarcely to be observed.

There is another dance, also peculiar to the country, which is singularly wild. It is styled the *Cracoviac*. Its figure is more complicated than the last. This dance is also performed by a great number of couples, by a large company, who, instead of marching, skip round the room to music, gay and airy, making a step in which one heel is kicked against the other with a hop. They all arrive in a body at a particular part of the room, where the whole company, men and women, give a sudden, loud, shrill, and frightful scream! then in an instant turn about, begin skipping as before, and clapping their hands to the movements of the tune.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

Isaac Walton, in his Life of Sir Henry Wotton, relates, that when Sir Henry was studying at Oxford, his father, then dean of Canterbury, dreamed that the university treasury was robbed by five townsmen and poor scholars, and immediately wrote to his son, from Kent, the nature of his dream. "This letter, (says Mr Walton) coming to his son's hands the very morning after the robbery was committed, and when the city and university were both in a perplext inquest after the thieves, then did Sir Henry shew his father's letter, and by it such light was given of this work of darkness, that the five guilty persons were presently discovered and apprehended, without putting the university to so much trouble as the *casting* of a *figure*." And yet so great an alteration has taken place in the public mind, that there are now three persons, one male and two females, in durance vile, for only copying an example which was set them by the most learned characters in the first university of Europe, not more than two centuries ago.

A Full and Interesting Account of the BRAZILS, *&c.*

[*Concluded from p.* 23.]

LAWS.

THE form of their laws is called *cariacao*, the witnesses *coriente*, and the person accused *cariade*. A man is here seized, imprisoned, and the depositions taken against him; and after continuing a certain time, (whose greater or less duration depends upon money and interest) he is examined. His answers, whether of denial, confession, or information, are written and signed: he is then remanded back to his confinement. Some farther time elapses according to the magnitude or insignificance of the affair, when the *cariacao* takes place; the accused and accuser are confronted, the accusation is read, and the prisoner is desired to give his answers on its truth, and what he has to defend it. After these are noted, the first examination of the prisoner is repeated to the witness, whose remarks on it are also taken down, and the papers are signed by both parties. This is transacted by a judge, or minister, and two clerks, whose signature is added, to authenticate the whole. The papers then pass to the court of justice, who decide finally on the question, and pronounce sentence; from which, in some cases, appeal lies to the grand court in Lisbon, or it is referred to the clemency of the prince.

Their legal procedure for *crim. con.* is the following:—The first application is made to the judicial power,

which gives orders to confine the frail culprit till the issue of the affair; and then, after the examination of witnesses, &c. transmits the documents and refers the final determination and sentence of divorce to the ecclesiastical court, so far as respects the man and wife; reserving to itself the punishment of the male delinquent. This latter measure consists of a severe fine and imprisonment, towards those who can afford it; but sometimes of transportation to Angola.

The business is always dispatched without delay; and if the case be very flagrant, the female is doomed to a convent for life, to be maintained by the husband at about ten-pence per diem. The parties cannot marry again during their joint lives.

The generality of crimes are punished with imprisonment; but the atrocious one of murder and treason, with death, unless the parties are opulent; in which case they too often escape, by means of the subtilties of the law, by appeal, or by pardon. Punishment by torture is forbidden, and *secretos* are substituted in its stead. The laws respecting debtors are extremely lenient; a late ordinance at Bahia prohibits imprisonment for debt, unless it be a swindling or fraudulent transaction, which is punished by confinement till restitution is made, or the injured party relents. If an individual finds himself unable to pay his creditors, he delivers over to them his effects, which are sold and divided, and he is free; but if he neglects to do this, or refuses to pay, the creditors seize by distraint every thing he has, except the clothes on his person, and have claims on whatever property he may afterwards acquire, till the debt is liquidated.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

The male inhabitants generally dress as in Lisbon, following the English modes; except that when visiting on a holiday, they have an excess of embroidery and spangles on their waistcoats, and lace to their linen. The sword they have totally thrown aside, (except in office); and cocked hats are going out of fashion. Shoe and knee buckles of solid gold, and of their own manufacture, are very common; and they are fondly attached to every species of finery. On their return home, these gala clothes are instantly taken off, and a gown or thick jacket adopted by some in their stead, while others content themselves with remaining in their shirt and drawers.

The usual dress of the ladies is a single petticoat over a chemise. The latter is composed of the thinnest muslin, and is generally much worked and ornamented; it is made so full at the bosom, that on the smallest movement it drops over one or both shoulders, leaving the breast perfectly exposed; and besides this, it is so transparent, that the skin is every where visible underneath. This violation of feminine delicacy appears the more disgusting, as the complexion of the Brazilians is in general very indifferent, approaching to an obscure tawny colour. Stockings are scarcely ever used; and during the rainy season, which is to them cold, they shuffle about in a pair of slippers, and are accommodated with a thick blue and white cotton wrapper, or a woollen great coat faced with shag, similar to the German *cavoys*. When attending mass, a deep black silk mantle, worn over the head, conceals the transparent costume beneath, They let the hair grow to a great length: it is twisted, fastened in a knot on the head, and always loaded with a profusion of pomatum and powder of tapioca. On some public occasions, and visits of ceremony, a few ladies of rank adopt the European dress.

The singular custom of permitting the nail of the thumb, or forefinger, (sometimes both) to grow to a hideous length, and then paring it to a sharp point, is common to both sexes. This excrescence, however, is not without its use, as it serves the men to divide the fibres from the tobacco leaf, and cut it into shape preparatory to rolling it into segars, to the smoking of which they are greatly addicted. Their viols and guitars are also thrummed with this nail, the flourishing display of which adds, in their opinion, a beauty to the instrument. And lastly, these sacred nails are considered as distinguishing the wearers for an easy indolence, which in this country is no trivial recommendation*.

* It is a curious circumstance, that a similar custom prevails in China,

At Bahia, there is a Portuguese comic theatre, under the management of an Italian. The house is nothing better than a barn, and the acting, decorations, &c. are in unison. The music is the only tolerable part.

The chief amusements of the citizens are the feasts of the different saints, processions of nuns, sumptuous funerals, the holy or passion week, &c. Scarcely a day passes without some one or other of these festivals occurring. Sometimes, on grand occasions, after coming from church, they visit each other, and have a more plentiful dinner than common, under the term banquet; during and after which they drink unusual quantities of wine; and, when elevated to an extraordinary pitch, the guitar or violin is introduced, and singing commences; but the song soon gives way to the enticing *negro dance*. This is a mixture of the dances of Africa, and the fandangos of Spain and Portugal. It consists of an individual of each sex dancing to an insipid thrumming of the instrument, always to one measure, with scarcely any action of the legs, but with every licentious motion of the body, joining in contact during the dance, in a manner strangely immodest. The spectators, aiding the music with an extemporaneous chorus, and clapping of the hands, enjoy the scene with an indescribable zest. These amusements, with parties into the country, and a few others of a trifling nature, added to the enervating idleness in which the Brazilians are plunged, constitute their whole happiness.

NATURAL GEOGRAPHY.

In Brazil, says Mr. Pinkerton, (Geog. Vol. III. p. 723.) the rainy season begins in April, and ends in August. This is called the winter, though, in fact, the heat is equal or superior to that of the dry season, or summer. These terms are so arbitrary in South America, that if it rain in the morning, the expression is—"what a dreadful winter!" And if the sun shine in the afternoon—"what a beautiful summer!" The soil teems with fertility, and rather requires to be exhausted than manured.

MINES.

M. Bougainville, in his voyage round the world, seems to have collected the best information upon this subject, and upon the revenue of Brazil.

"Rio Janeiro is the staple and principal outlet of the riches of Brazil. The mines called General, are the nearest to the city, at the distance of about seventy-five leagues. They yield to the king, every year, for his right of fifths, at least a hundred and twelve arrobas of gold; in 1762 they yielded a hundred and nineteen. Under the captaincy of the General Mines, are comprehended those of Rio do Morte, of Sabara, and of Serro-frio. The last, besides gold, produces all the diamonds that come from Brazil. They are found at the bottom of a river, of which they turn the course, in order to separate from the pebbles in its bed, the diamonds, topazes, chrysolites, and other stones of inferior quality.

"Of all these stones, the diamonds alone are contraband: they belong to the undertakers, who are obliged to give an exact account of the diamonds found, and to place them in the hands of the intendant appointed by the king for this purpose, who deposits them immediately in a casket encircled with iron and shut with three locks. He has one of the keys, the viceroy another, and the assayer of the royal treasury the third. This casket is enclosed in a second, sealed by the three persons above-mentioned, and which contains the three keys of the first. The viceroy has not the power of visiting its contents. He only consigns the whole to a third strong coffer, which he sends to Lisbon, after having set his seal on the lock. They are opened in the presence of the king, who chooses what diamonds he pleases, and pays the price to the undertakers at the rate fixed by their agreement.

"The undertakers pay to his most Faithful Majesty the value of a piastre

where the men of learning, as they stile themselves, suffer the nails of their little fingers to grow sometimes to the enormous length of 3 inches, for the sole purpose of giving ocular demonstration of the impossibility of their being employed in any sort of manual labour.—*See Barrow's Travels, and Universal Mag.* Vol. II. p. 441.

Spanish money, each day, for every slave employed in searching for diamonds; and the number of these slaves may amount to eight hundred. Of all kinds of contraband trade that of diamonds is the most severely punished. If the offender be poor, it costs him his life; if he has wealth sufficient to satisfy the law, besides the confiscation of the diamonds, he is condemned to pay twice their value, to one year's imprisonment, and is afterwards banished for life to the coast of Africa. Notwithstanding this severity, there is a great contraband of diamonds, even of the most beautiful, the hope and ease of concealing them being increased by the small size of the treasure.

"The gold drawn from the mines cannot be carried to Rio Janeiro, without being first brought to the smelting houses established in each district, where the right of the crown is received. What results to private persons is remitted in bars, with their weight, number, and the royal arms. All this gold has been assayed by a person appointed for this purpose, and on each bar is imprinted the standard of the gold, so that afterwards in the coinage the operation necessary to estimate their due standard may be easily performed.

"These bars belonging to individuals, are registered in the factory of La Praybuna, thirty leagues from Rio Janeiro. In this station are a captain, lieutenant, and fifty men: here is paid the right of fifths; and besides a toll of a real and a half per head on men, cattle, and beasts of burden. Half of the product of this duty belongs to the king, and the other half is divided between the detachment according to rank. As it is impossible to return from the mines without passing by this office, all persons are there stopped, and searched with the greatest severity.

"Individuals are afterwards obliged to carry all the gold in bars, which belongs to them, to the mint of Rio Janeiro, where the value is given in coin, commonly in half doubloons, each worth eight Spanish dollars. Upon each of these half doubloons the king gains a dollar, by the alloy and the right of coinage. The mint of Rio Janeiro is one of the most beautiful which exist; it is furnished with every convenience to work with the greatest celerity. As the gold arrives from the mines at the same time that the fleets arrive from Portugal, it is necessary to accelerate the work of the mint, and the coinage proceeds with surprising quickness.

"The arrival of these fleets renders the commerce of Rio Janeiro very flourishing, but chiefly that of the Lisbon fleet. That of Porto is only laden with wines, brandy, vinegars, provisions, and coarse cloths, manufactured in that city or its environs. Soon after the arrival of the fleets, all the merchandise brought is taken to the custom-house, where it pays ten per cent. to the king. It is to be observed, that at present, the communication of the colony of St. Sacramento with Buenos Ayres being severely prohibited, these rights must experience a considerable diminution.* Almost all the most precious articles were sent from Rio Janeiro to the colony of Sacramento, whence they were smuggled by Buenos Ayres into Chili and Peru; and this fraudulent commerce was worth every year to the Portuguese more than a million and a half of dollars. In a word, the mines of Brazil produce no silver; all that the Portuguese possess is acquired by this contraband trade. The negro trade was also an immense object to them. It is impossible to compute the loss occasioned by the almost entire suppression of this branch of contraband trade. It occupied alone at the least thirty vessels in the coasting trade from Brazil to La Plata.

"Besides the ancient right of ten per cent. paid to the royal custom-house, there is another of two and a half per cent. imposed under the title of free gift, since the disaster at Lisbon in 1755. It is paid immediately on leaving the custom-house, whereas a delay of six months is granted for the tenth, on giving good security.

"The mines of St. Paolo and Parnagua yield to the king four arrobas for the fifths every year. The most distant mines, as those of Pracaton and Quiaba (Cuyaba), depend on the

* The colony of St. Sacramento has since been destroyed.

captaincy of Matogroso. The fifth of the above mines is not received at Rio Janeiro, but that of the mines of Goyas is deducted. This captaincy also possesses diamond mines which are forbidden to be worked.

"The whole of the expence of the king of Portugal at Rio Janeiro, for the payment of the troops and civil officers, and for the charges of the mines, the maintenance of the public buildings, the careening of vessels, amounts to about six hundred thousand dollars. The expences of building ships of the line and frigates there stationed are not included.

"*Recapitulation, and the amount of the average of different objects of royal revenue.*

"A hundred and fifty arrobas of gold, the average produced by the royal fifths, are in Spanish money	*Dollars.* 1,125,000
The duty on diamonds	240,000
The duty on coinage	400,000
Ten per cent. from the custom-house	350,000
Two and a half per cent. of free gift	87,000
Right of toll, sale of employments, offices, and generally all the profits of the mines	225,000
Duty on slaves	110,000
Duty on fish oil, salt, soap, and the tenth on the provisions of the country	130,000
Total	2,667,000

"From which, deducting the above expences, it will be seen that the king of Portugal draws from Rio Janeiro, a revenue exceeding ten millions of French livres." *

* £416,666.

Strictures *on the* Poetry *of* Thomson.

Sir,

THE interesting criticisms upon Gray, Schiller, Shakspeare, &c. which have lately ornamented the pages of your Magazine, leave me room to hope that the following, upon *Thomson's Seasons*, may not be unacceptable. Thomson may now aspire to the dignity of a classic; and yet he has undergone less of critical examination than any author of equal fame. I have read his works more than once or twice; always with high delight, and always with a strong conviction that his poetry abounds with errors of a bad taste. Of his Four Seasons, his *Spring* is incontestibly the best, and to that, as it is the first, I shall first pay my attention.

The fault that will most forcibly strike a careful reader of Thomson is an ungraceful redundancy of words; these are often heaped up in such an undistinguishing manner, that the sense is often obscured, and the beauty of the imagery often injured. But this fault is little perceptible in Spring; there is a force, a harmony, an elegance of language in this, which cannot be found so entirely in either of the other seasons.

Another error, frequent in this writer, is the usage of unauthorised, of compounded, and of inelegant words. Of this the following are proofs.—

"Still let my song a nobler note assume,
And sing the *infusive* force of spring on man." *Spring*, *l.* 865.

"Ah then! instead of love-enliven'd cheeks,
Of sunny features, and of ardent eyes,
With flowing rapture bright, dark looks succeed
Suffused and glaring with *untender* fire." *Ib. l.* 1086.

"Young day pours in apace,
And opens all the *lawny* prospect wide." *Summer*, *l.* 59, and *l.* 778.

"The turning spring
Averts her *blushful face*." *Ib. l.* 7.
"Effulgent, hence the *reiny* marble shines." *Ib. l.* 135.

"While tyrant heat *dispreading* through the sky." *Ib. l.* 209.

"They spread the breathing harvest to the sun
That throws *refresh'ful* round a rural smell." *Ib. l.* 364.

"His swelling sides
Laves, as he floats along the *herbag'd* brink." *Ib. l.* 475.

"Beneath the touch
Of forming art, *imagination-flush'd*." *Autumn*, *l.* 140.

"Along the woods, along the *moorish* fens
Sighs the sad genius of the coming storm." *Winter*, *l.* 66.

Who would not think this an epithet derived from Barbary?

"The branling brook
And cave, *presageful*, send a hollow moan
Resounding long in listening Fancy's ear."
Ib. l. 70.

These are few instances taken from many: and not even the most enthusiastic of his admirers will venture I believe to defend them. To return however to *Spring*.

To those who have been accustomed to find beauty in the following passages, it will be unpleasant to learn that their admiration must be transferred to other poets: describing the sorrows of the nightingale when her nest is robbed, he adds,

"She sings
Her sorrows thro' the night; and, on the bough
Sole-sitting, still at every *dying fall*
Takes up again, &c."—*l.* 792.

The finest and most *picturesque* expression in this passage is from Shakspeare:

"If music be the food of love, play on,
* * * *
That strain again—it had a *dying fall:*
Oh! it comes o'er my ear like the sweet south
That breathes upon a bank of violets
Stealing and giving odour."
Twelfth Night, Act. I. Sc. I.

I could not stop my pen without finishing these exquisitely beautiful lines, though the latter part has nothing to do with Thomson. Again,

"'Tis on some evening, sunny, grateful, mild,
When nought *but balm is breathing thro' the woods.*" *l.* 735.

Here he has copied a most heavenly passage from Milton:

"The soft delicious air
To heal the scar of these corrosive fires,
Shall breath her balm."
Paradise Lost, B. II. l. 401.

Before I conclude this letter, I will cursorily advert to another passage in *Spring*, for the sake of vindicating Shakspeare from a contumelious remark of Johnson. Thomson says,

"Where the *dun* umbrage o'er the falling stream, &c." *l.* 1024.

Your readers doubtless recollect a paper in Dr. Johnson's *Rambler*, where that critic examines the *Macbeth* of Shakspeare, and among others the following lines:

—"Come thick night!
And pall thee in the *dunnest* smoke of hell!"

Upon this passage the critic observes, (after admiring the grandeur of the whole invocation) "yet its efficacy is destroyed by the insertion of an epithet now seldom heard but in the stable, and *dun* night may come or go without any other notice than contempt." No. 168.

Would this fastidious and tasteless critic have said, that the following lines from Milton too might be dismissed with contempt?

"The Creator then surveyed
Hell and the gulf between, and Satan there
Coasting the wall of heaven on this side night,
In the *dun* air sublime."
P L B. III. l. 72.

In each of the above two quotations, in fact, the epithet dun is applied in a most forceful manner, and excites a grand and awful idea.

Should these remarks be inserted, I will send you a continuation of them for the ensuing number; and remain, Sir, &c.

Bath, Feb. 1. H. YELVERTON.

On MODERN ARCHITECTURE.

SIR,

THE study of modern architecture having lately become very general, so that its principles and practice are pretty well understood, and digested into some kind of method and regularity, permit me to send you a few thoughts on that part of it which has prevailed in this kingdom from the times of the Saxons to the reign of Henry the 8th, and on its revival in the present century. The stile of architecture, which is vulgarly called gothic, is very improperly distinguished by that name, for it is little indebted to the Goths, either for its origin or improvements, except so far as the nations who first adopted it are descended from the Goths; but the truth is, it was originally applied as a term of reproach by the revivers of Grecian literature, to distinguish it from that more pure and scientific stile, and thence has obtained the name of gothic all over Europe,

though the different species of it vary according to the nations by whom it has been adopted. Who the Goths were may be learnt from Mr. Pinkerton's elaborate and convincing Essay on that nation. The intention which I have at present, is to promote the study and practice of that species of architecture which is peculiarly called English, and which took its rise in this nation about the reign of Stephen or Henry the second, judging it not only the most beautiful but the best adapted for convenience, both in sacred and civil architecture, and because I think the Grecian is neither capable of calling forth such exertions of genius, so pleasing to the eye, nor so well suited to the uses for which it is intended.

The origin of the architecture peculiar to this country is not difficult to find out, for when the Saxons settled here they found many buildings left by the Romans; the temples they converted into churches, of the fortresses some they destroyed, and built others after the Roman method; by degrees they adorned the simplicity of the Roman arch and pillar, with many grotesque ornaments, though their successors (the Romans) added many more, so that in the time of Henry the 1st, rarely a single Roman arch was to be found; of the few they left standing, there is one at Lincoln, which is the north gate of the city; and twenty years ago there was another at Canterbury, which was taken down by greater barbarians than the Saxons themselves. A few more may perhaps be found, though they are only known to the antiquarian.

The Saxon architecture, soon after the conquest, gave way to another introduced by the Normans, which, though it lasted but a short time, produced many specimens of great beauty and elegance, of which the quire of Canterbury cathedral is the most admired. It was in this venerable pile, in the year 1803, that the idea first struck me of the origin of the painted arch, which forms the peculiarity of the gothic or English stile, from the intersection of two circular arches: an idea which I have since found confirmed by many profound antiquarians, a circumstance which has given me no small degree of pleasure.

A few years ago all architecture not Grecian was, by the vulgar and many above the vulgar, called gothic. Since the year 1771, more correct ideas have begun to prevail, and it has been proved by many men of deep research and judgment, that three different stiles are found in this nation, the Saxon, the Norman, whose pillars and arches are circular and heavy, and the English, whose pillars are slender and arches pointed. The origin of the English is dated from the reign of Henry the 2d, for at that period the circular arch was entirely disused, and the pointed one become general. It continued in its pure and simple state till the reign of Edward the 3d, when a more ornamented stile began to prevail, of which the first specimens are to be found in the works of William of Wykeham, the illustrious founder of Winchester school, and New College, Oxford. This stile has been denominated the pure, and the former the early gothic, for which we ought to substitute the word English. The sepulchral chapel of Henry the 4th, in Canterbury cathedral, is one of the finest specimens of this elegant stile; and the chapel on the bridge at Wakefield, built by Edward the 4th, one of the latest; one addition of ornament produced another, till, in the reign of Henry the 8th, the inventive and executive powers of our English artists became exhausted by excess of art; and at the same time the introduction of a less splendid form of worship, by means of the reformation, contributed to the decline of an art which arrived under popery at the highest state of excellence. About this time too, the revival of literature, by bringing back a taste for Grecian study, recalled also the Grecian architecture, which was introduced into this country by Charles the 1st and the Earl of Arundel, so that gothic buildings were not only despised and neglected, but when they stood in need of repairs, were injudiciously decorated with splendid patches of Grecian architecture; and as the two harmonize very ill together, some of our finest cathedrals are spoiled by this

heterogeneous mixture of things which are essentially different.

A taste for English architecture began to revive about fifty years ago; but many buildings professing to be built in that style were English only in name, and in having a few pinnacles along their battlements, with something like a painted arch in their windows and doors. Of this a striking example is to be found in the new building of the Archbishop of York's palace at Bishop Thorpe, and many others might be given. The most complete and judicious restorer of the gothic or English stile, was Mr. Essex, of Cambridge; to him has succeeded Mr. Wyat, though not possessed of equal taste and judgment; by whom he will be succeeded I have yet to be informed. My next will attempt to show the superior beauty and convenience of English to Grecian architecture, and name those books by which the study of this art may principally be advanced.

I remain, &c.

W. BURDON.

Hartford, near Morpeth,
Feb. 9, 1808.

Erratum in my last letter:—page 26, first line, *for* Hero *read* Thero at Agrigentum.

CRITICISM.

"Nulli negabimus, nulli differemus justitiam."

DISCOURSES *on the Management of* INFANTS, *and the Treatment of their* DISEASES. *Written in a plain familiar style to render them intelligible and useful to all Mothers. By* JOHN HERDMAN, M. D.—Pages 300.

THIS work engages the public attention to one of the most interesting and important subjects that can occupy the human mind. The care and management of infants is a neglected branch of study; and in this age of refinement and luxury, the greatest evils are often introduced into society by the continuance of obsolete prejudices and practices; and this alarming circumstance calls aloud for serious reformation, and that through every class in the community.

Parents are impelled by nature and affection, to watch with tender and anxious solicitude over the health and welfare of their offspring; but this anxiety is often directed to a line of conduct dangerous both in its nature and consequences. The laws and operations of nature are extremely simple and beautiful, and providence has afforded a suitable supply to the wants of the various tribes of being that cover the earth. To man, the lord of the creation, he has not been unmindful. But man is the creature of caprice, of folly, and of fashion, which the arts and luxuries of civilized life have introduced, in opposition to those laws of nature and providence which are wisely suited to the exigences of our being.

The inquiries connected with this work appear to have been a favourite object of pursuit with Dr. Herdman, and he has entered upon a task by no means popular. Although a variety of treatises have been written upon the subject, there are few comparatively who have ventured to attack those deep rooted prejudices which have too long governed the practices of mothers, and which owe their origin chiefly to empiricism and ignorance. In this respect Dr. H. has neither feared the offence or prejudices of mothers, but directed them to the "faithful and unerring hand of nature." But we cannot help fearing with Dr. Gregory, "that this practice is not likely to become soon general. Physicians do not concern themselves with subjects of this kind, or with the regimen of mankind, unless their advice is particularly asked. These matters are founded on established customs and prejudices, which it is difficult to conquer and dangerous to attack; nor will it ever be attempted by men who depend on the favour and caprice of the world for subsistence, and who find it their interest rather to sooth prejudices than to oppose them." If Dr. Herdman is able to withstand such obstacles he need

not dread animadversion, for his is the cause of helpless humanity, a cause which future generations will gratefully applaud and justly appreciate.

The work consists of two discourses, the first of which is the most important, and deserves the serious and attentive perusal of all parents. The second discourse relates to the primary diseases of the infant, and gently assists the mother in understanding the cause of those diseases, which are often wrapt in obscurity. Without this knowledge, it is vain to introduce the use of drugs, or the nostrums of our quacks, which have long enriched the coffers of some of the most ignorant and vulgar of mankind, and which deserves the reprehension of any respectable practitioner in medicine.

The author in the first discourse reprobates the "implicit confidence which is placed in the judgment and opinion of midwives and nurses," and the mistakes which result from their supposed experience, which is "mere repetition of the same practices, be they wright or wrong," and certainly not founded in nature, but owe their origin to ignorance and credulity.

He next proceeds to draw a comparison between man and other animals, in which he closely follows the learned Dr. Gregory upon the same subject. Instinct is considered as the unerring principle in the management of infants; and though it may be difficult to draw the line of distinction between instinct and reason, owing to the artificial state of society, yet enough is discoverable in analogy. "Where are we to find precepts for our guide?" says Dr. H. "Not in civilized society, nor even among savage nations; but among the inferior animals, where the dictates of nature and of instinct reign free and uncontrouled, and where every action is strictly consonant to the nature and condition of their infant offspring." Page 15.

Following instinct as a guide, Dr. H. describes the management of the infant from the moment of birth. He rejects almost all the common modes of treatment and advises the mother continually to consult the simplicity of nature. He appeals for evidence to the savage tribes, whose infants are by no means subject to the many diseases, and the consequent mortality which prevail among civilized states. Whenever the infant is allowed the free exercise of its vital energies, and its body preserved from injurious powers, there is little danger of disease and death. "The great source of all the ills of infant humanity is mismanagement. Ignorance, false reasoning, and fancied improvements, have introduced a thousand absurdities, in the dress of infants, in their food, and in the temperature to which they are exposed, as well as in every other part of their management." Again, "he suffers from no less than five causes—exposure to cold, from being tumbled on the nurse's knee, from friction by her rude hands, from the nature of the cleansing substance immediately after birth, and most severely from the excoriations and inflammations, which follow this officious cleansing of his skin." The doctor thus very judiciously shews the absurdity of this line of conduct, in each of these particulars, and demonstrates that such practices are not founded in nature or the reason of things.

Under the head of nursing, we have some just censures on that absurd and unnatural practice of forcing children to take extraneous food against their own natural feelings. Nature remonstrates with the ignorant and unfeeling parent, but in vain. The child must early be crammed with food, and if its body is not deranged, it must then have physic. This is the uniform practice; and professional characters are teized continually, without being able to censure such practice. It is more honourable, however, to remonstrate plainly with parents, than sacrifice the dignity of the profession either to the ignorance, or pride, or weakness of mankind. The doctor then expostulates with mothers.—"What then must happen, if a mother does not nurse her infant? Disease must happen. For, by so doing, she violates the laws and institutions of nature, which cannot be done with impunity; cannot be done without throwing the constitution into disorder and disease; into disease both general and

local; swellings, inflammations, and suppurations in the breasts; milk fevers and milk sores. Besides, if a mother does not nurse her infant, her constitution is either so much injured that she becomes barren; or if this should not happen, she becomes pregnant again, and the injurious effects of frequent child bearing without nursing are not to be told. The constitution may stand it out awhile; but, at least, derangement of constitution and disease will come; premature old age and death." Page 93.

The first discourse concludes by some just observations on the right knowledge of temperature in the management of infants and of a convenient and comfortable dress, the inutility and injury of cradles, and the conduct to be observed in the progress of teething and of gradual weaning.

Dr. Herdman, in the second discourse, enters into a particular consideration of the causes, symptoms, nature, and cure of infantile diseases, which arise from unnatural or improper food; and the undue operation of temperature in the following order—disease of the stomach and bowels, of the nose, lungs, and eyes, and disease of the skin.

It is certainly surprising how ignorance could invent, and prejudice sanction, the unnatural custom of deranging the stomach of the infant the first moment after birth. There are no arguments, founded upon a physiological basis, to establish the practice; and the reasoning here employed is conclusive, and consistent with the general economy of nature. We know the happy consequences that result from the child first receiving only the mother's milk; and we can say with Dr. H. that if the infant be properly managed, if he be not thrown into the state of disease, if the changes which take place in his body and in his bowels be not interrupted or disturbed, assuredly the meconium will be discharged, for the one is the consequence of the other."

This subject is farther illustrated by observations on some passages extracted from Underwood, Moss, and other writers; with a chemical analysis of milk and its effects upon the infant constitution.

The author's recapitulation of the two discourses affords a good epitome of the whole, and with which we shall conclude. "In the first of these discourses I have shewn you how to preserve the health of your infants; in the second, how to remove their diseases. The preservation of health consists in preventing the operation of the causes which produce disease. Attend, therefore, to the rules delivered in the first discourse, and preserve the health and the life of your infants, neglect them and witness their diseases and their death.

"The cure of disease comprises the investigation of its exciting cause or causes; the removal or prevention of their action; and lastly, the administration of such powers as are fitted to aid the efforts of nature, in removing their effects or in reproducing the healthful state. The discourse which I have just closed is modelled on these principles:—it is an attempt to found the treatment of infantile diseases 'upon the firm and indestructible base of a genuine philosophy.'"

CONSIDERATIONS *on the* CAUSES, OBJECTS, *and* CONSEQUENCES *of the* PRESENT WAR; *and on the Expediency or the Danger of* PEACE *with* FRANCE. *By* WILLIAM ROSCOE, *Esq.* pp. 135.

THIS is a well written pamphlet, and in every respect worthy the name it bears. Mr. Roscoe is a decided enemy to the principle of *perpetual war*, as every reflecting man must be. He takes a rapid and dispassionate view of the events of the present war, and the successive causes of it which have been ostensibly advanced. He shews that not one of the reasons that have been at different times, considered as the occasion of the war, now exists, and that consequently the nation might demand from its ruler a knowledge of what the grounds are upon which we are now contending. He sees no solid objections to a peace with Bonaparte; but one of his arguments upon this head is sufficiently fallacious. "As the primary motives of the war expired, new ones however arose; and we next carried on the contest, *because the government with which we had to treat was unable to maintain the accustomed relations of peace and*

amity; as if the same government which could call forth the energies of a nation to successful warfare, had not sufficient authority to grant it repose." With all due deference to Mr. Roscoe, we would answer certainly not: and Mr. Roscoe need not travel far into historical records to find it so. We do not, in particular, say that Bonaparte cannot maintain a peace if he made one, but to the general proposition we strongly object, that the power which calls forth the energies of a nation is *necessarily* efficient to command them into repose. Those very energies would themselves become the opposing barrier: and history is full of facts that prove the easiness of exciting, but the difficulty of ruling a multitude. To undam the headlong current is often but a moment's labour; but to check its course again, defies the same power. The French revolution itself was an awful and lamentable proof of this.

Mr. Roscoe's arguments in favour of a pacification with France are those of a temperate and an enlightened mind. It is surely a boon worth trying for; and besides, for what do we now contend? The chimera of the balance of power, for the preservation of which former statesmen laboured and armies fought, none will be so hardy as to name: allies we have none, and we have no further need therefore to subsidize them till they find it convenient to leave us: that war is a *benefit* to a nation no one will affirm; that our commerce, our manufactures, our industry, our wealth, and our happiness, would be advanced by peace is beyond contradiction; and that we can *force* Bonaparte into one, with the whole continent at his beck and numerous armies scattered all over it, is a probability which nobody on the outside of Bedlam will confide in.

"If it be true," says Mr. Roscoe, "as we are every day reminded by the advocates for the war, that we are to contend for our constitution, our liberties, our religion, and our laws, it is only because we ourselves bring them voluntarily forwards, and submit them to the hazard of the die. At what period, since the revolution in France, has the French government proposed to us that we should relinquish or divest ourselves of any of these invaluable treasures? If we look either to the treaty of Amiens, the discussions on the war in 1803, or the negociations in 1806, we find no traces of any propositions on the part of France, which could infringe in the slightest degree upon the independence, the interest, or the prosperity of this country. Even the complaints made by the French ruler against the licentiousness of the British press were abandoned, and eventually formed no part of the discussions. In the negociations in 1806, we shall find, that so far from any concessions being required from us, every demand upon which we insisted *as essential to the interests of this country*, was complied with. They were, in fact, even more than complied with, and the island of Tobago was voluntarily added by the French to their own concessions, upon the principle alleged by them, and not by our ministers, that it was a British island. Is it then in this that we recognize any intention on the part of France to encroach upon either our honour or our interest? or has it not been on the contrary openly asserted by the present administration, that the proffered peace was rejected, not because the terms were unacceptable to England, but because they were unsatisfactory to Russia? If, however, instead of acceding to just and reasonable terms of accommodation, we choose, through motives of animosity, of resentment, of jealousy, or of pride, to continue the war, we then must contend for our liberties, our lives, and our existence; as any individual in private life may, if he thinks proper, stake his whole fortune against a bubble, and has only himself to blame for the result. We might have continued at peace in 1803, if we would have evacuated Malta, as we had agreed to do by the treaty of Amiens; or would even have been satisfied by a ten years possession of it. We might have had it in 1806, with the cession of Hanover, Malta, and the Cape, with the possessions of the French in the East Indies, and the island of Tobago in the West, and with an acknowledged right of interference in the affairs of the continent, if our connection with Russia had not

prevented us from accepting these terms. WE MAY HAVE IT YET, in all probability, if we can subdue our exasperated passions, artificially blown into a flame by those whose interest and whose gratification it is to hurry us on to our ruin: men who are lost to every feeling of the true interests of their country, and who, in case its constitution should be subverted by a foreign power, would be the first, not only to testify their implicit submission to any government, however tyrannical it might be, but to direct its vengeance against those genuine friends of liberty and truth, who would, under every change of exterior circumstances, remain unchanged, and who after having defended their principles in their lives, would seal them by their blood."

This is the language of reason, and which we hail with the greater pleasure, as our ears are daily stunned with the splenetic effusions of our diurnal prints, which are disgraced, for the most part, with mean and despicable invectives. It is not by "quips, and sentences, and paper-bullets of the brain," that a man like Bonaparte will be "awed from the career of his humour:" he can do us more injury now by his edicts and his restrictions, than we can do him with all our formidable navy: *delenda est Carthago* is the war-whoop of the modern Catos of France; but their Scipio will endeavour to accomplish the end by other means.

We shall conclude our account of this pamphlet with the following peroration with which Mr. R. closes it; and at the same time recommend the whole work as an able, calm, and dignified appeal to the good sense, and honour, and prosperity of our countrymen.

"Nothwithstanding the present appearances of increased hostility between Great Britain and France, there is reason to hope, that by a seasonable and temperate exposition of the views of the two countries, the foundation might be laid for that state of tranquillity which is so greatly the interest of both. Whatever may be the language of Bonaparte with respect to ships, colonies, and commerce, these are not the objects towards which his views will be directed. Much as he has already done, much yet remains to be done by him, even after the restoration of peace, to consolidate and secure his newly acquired dominions, to ascertain the relations and confirm the fidelity of his dependant states, and to lay the firm foundations of that monarchy of which he is ambitious to be the founder. If we interfere not with him in these occupations, (and it has abundantly appeared that all opposition on our part has only defeated its own object) he is not likely to entertain the absurd hope of rivalling that maritime superiority, of which, if he were to attempt to deprive us, his efforts would be as vain as ours have been to overturn his power on the continent. That this supposition is well founded appears by the uniform tenor of the last negociation, in which this true and only basis of general tranquillity was repeatedly pointed out; and by the offer on the part of France, not only to surrender Hanover and Malta, but to relinquish to us her territories in the East Indies, to add to our possessions in the West, and to guarantee to us the Cape of Good Hope. If it had been the object of France to increase her maritime strength and her colonial territories, would her politic and long-sighted ruler have proposed to have surrendered her foreign possessions to this country? Or would he not, on the contrary, rather have grasped at those distant acquisitions, and have sought in the plunder of Holland and other countries to have added to the colonial possessions of France? In any negociation in which he has as yet taken a part, it has not appeared that he was willing to disable himself from the attainment of any object which he has deemed of sufficient importance to be insisted on; and if he has proposed thus to add to our colonial and maritime strength, there is every reason to presume, however he may threaten, that he has no serious intention of contending with it.

Happily however for this country, we have no occasion to place a reliance on his intentions, or to ask from him the concession of our naval superiority as a favour. If we are but true to ourselves, and do not wantonly sport with those blessings which Providence has conferred upon us; if,

if instead of blindly aiming at continental influence and connections, we duly estimate our own interests, importance, and security, we may regard all the efforts of France to rival us, as a maritime power, without dismay. In a political point of view, Europe, since the commencement of the revolution in France, has changed her position. This country must, in some respects, change her position also. Her connections with the continent are, by her own act, dissolved. The balance of power, that chimerical source of war and bloodshed, now exists not even in name. Instead of devoting our exertions, exhausting our resources, and risking our very existence, in a fruitless and destructive contest, let us turn our attention to those incalculable sources of prosperity and independence which have hitherto been so unaccountably and so fatally neglected. Let us attend more to ourselves and less to our neighbours; convinced that if we had devoted one tenth part of those immense sums which have been so lavishly expended in foreign subsidies and fruitless expeditions, in promoting the arts, the agriculture, and the internal economy of the country, we should have raised ourselves to a justly merited eminence, and should have added to our real strength, importance, and respectability. Let us establish and consolidate, on principles of justice, humanity, and mutual interest, our foreign possessions and colonies, and adopt such a policy with respect to them as may give additional vigour to our manufactures, and additional employment to our commerce. By a dignified, but just and conciliatory conduct to neutral states, let us dissipate the suspicions and animosities to which we appear in some late instances to have given rise.* What would then be the proud situation of this country? Standing on her own foundation, independent of foreign allies; extending herself by her commerce, on the one hand to the east, on the other to the west; herself the emporium of the world. In this conduct we should find not only our interest but our safety, and be equally and at all times prepared for either peace or war. The increase of our commerce will be attended with an increase of the maritime strength of the state. Those apprehensions which operate so forcibly on the weak and timid, that France in the event of peace may rival us in our naval glory, will be effectually removed. We have now in our power the means of great national prosperity, with our manufactures at home, with our markets in the East and West Indies; with the imports from the colonies, and that intercourse with the rest of the world which these advantages will always command, who can contend with us? At the same time the instruments of our prosperity are the instruments of our safety, and the increase of our navy, the increase of our strength. This is the *true position*, this the *high destiny* of our country; and NOTHING BUT A POLITICAL SUICIDE, A TOTAL INCAPACITY TO MEET THE BOUNTIES OF PROVIDENCE AND TO IMPROVE ITS BLESSINGS, CAN INDUCE US TO HESITATE FOR A MOMENT, AS TO THE COURSE WE OUGHT TO PURSUE."

* In the present critical and uncertain state of affairs between Great Britain and America, I forbear to touch upon them. The subject would of itself be of sufficient magnitude to form a separate publication.

VIEW *of the Present State of* POLAND. *By* GEORGE BURNETT, *late of Baliol College, Oxford.* 1 vol. 1807.

THIS work cannot distinctly aspire to the merit of an original publication, as a very great portion of it has already appeared in a periodical journal. It is reprinted, however, with various insertions and alterations, and the concluding chapters are entirely new.

Mr. Burnett was in Poland about ten months, connected with the family of Count Zamoyski; how he employed these ten months we are at a loss to conceive, for certainly had he made a judicious use of them he might have given to his book a much greater degree of utility and interest. We are not entitled, however, to pass any censure upon this subject, for Mr. Burnett candidly states, and seems to regret his own negligence: he does not pretend to more than he possesses; and from promis-

ing little, the reader, in fact, finds more than he expected.

Mr. Burnett is a lively and perspicuous narrator of facts, which makes it the more to be lamented that his task was so little extensive. Chapter I. is occupied with an account of Dantzic and its environs, of which the most remarkable thing in Mr. Burnett's eyes seems to have been "that every second man he met had a great German pipe in his mouth, or dangling in his hand. When a Dantzicker, or German, makes an excursion, he always takes his pipe with him, as an Englishman his walking stick." Chapter II relates to the face of the country, forests, lakes, &c. The surface is slightly uneven, but not sufficiently to interrupt the view towards the farthest possible horizon. Hence, though Poland is a flat country, it is not a perfect plain, as has been sometimes represented. The traveller sometimes finds himself in an expanse of surface, almost without a house, a tree, or any single object large enough to attract his notice. Soon, however, are descried the skirts of some vast forest fringing the distant horizon; and on entering it we proceed for eight or ten miles, winding with the road through lofty pines, &c. &c. These forests in some places are fifteen and even twenty miles in all directions: of an estate belonging to a certain nobleman, nearly one half is computed to be forest; and Mr. Burnett thinks, that not more than one half of the country, generally speaking, is cleared. A sufficient proof of the low state of agriculture. Chapter III considers the soil, vegetable, and animal productions; in which we find nothing very curious, except that Mr. Burnett says he has "drank wine a hundred years old!" Chapter IV relates to the climate, air, seasons, &c. and of which nothing is here told that was not well known before: the severity of the climate, and the consequent sufferings of the Polish peasants, or rather savages, are common facts.—In Chapter V we have some account of the villages and towns. A Polish village consists of a collection of miserable huts, about fifty in all, and rudely covered with straw and turf. Of the towns, it is a tolerably large one that contains two thousand inhabitants. Many are dignified with this appellation, where the people cannot exceed two or three hundred. The population of Warsaw, since the partition, has been on the decline. It is now rated at no more than 50,000.—Chapter VI is devoted to a consideration of travelling, inns, &c. The former must, of course, be bad; and the latter are so little inviting, that on entering, you are assailed with a most abominable host of stinks. "It is literally true," says Mr. B. "that frequently after I had proceeded a step or two within the threshold, I was obliged to turn back to collect fresh air and resolution ere I could advance!" This is sufficient to give us an idea of what the interior must be. The inns in the interior of Poland are all kept by Jews.—Chapter VII is occupied with an account of the population, peasantry, &c. The general population of Poland, prior to its dismemberment, has been stated at fifteen millions; but the nobles are fond of thinking that it has declined since that event. His account of the Polish peasantry exhibits a melancholy picture of their degradation. They are scarcely a degree above a Hottentot in intellectual energy; they are the miserable appanage of an estate, and transferred with it like a lot of trees.

"When a young peasant marries, his lord assigns him a certain quantity of land, sufficient for the maintenance of himself and family in the poor manner in which they are accustomed to live. Should the family be numerous, some little addition is made to the grant. At the same time, the young couple obtain also a few cattle, as a cow or two, with steers to plow their land. These are fed in the stubble, or in the open places of the woods, as the season admits. The master also provides them with a cottage, with implements of husbandry, in short, with all their little moveable property. In consideration of these grants, the peasant is obliged to make a return to the landholder of one half of his labour; that is, he works three days in the week for his lord, and three for himself. If any of his cattle die they

are replaced by the master; a circumstance which renders him negligent of his little herd, as the death or loss of some of them is a frequent occurrence.

"When a farmer rents a farm, the villages situated on it, with their inhabitants, are considered as included in the contract; and the farmer derives a right to the same proportion of the labour of the peasants for the cultivation of that farm, as by the condition of their tenure they are bound to yield the lord.

"If an estate be sold, the peasants are likewise transferred, of course, with the soil, to a new master, subject to the same conditions as before. The Polish boors, therefore, are still slaves; and relatively to their political existence, absolutely subject to the will of their lords as in all the barbarism of the feudal times. They are not privileged to quit the soil, except in a few instances of complete enfranchisement; and if they were, the privilege, for the most part, would be merely nominal: for whither should they go? They may retire, indeed, into the recesses of the forests, where it is possible they may not be traced; and it is probable, that in times past many resorted to this expedient to escape from the cruelties of a tyrannical master. To fly from a mild master would be obviously against their interest. To quit the territory of one grandee for that of another, must commonly if not always, have been impracticable: for what landholder would choose to admit a fugitive peasant, and thus encourage a spirit of revolt? Again, it is not in their power, from the circumstances of their condition, to sell their labour indifferently to this or that master; and if such obstacles did not oppose, the very extent of the Polish farms, and the consequent want of a second contiguous employer, would suffice in most cases to preclude a change of masters."

Mr. Burnett offers, in the course of this chapter, some sensible and humane suggestions for the emancipation of these oppressed boors.

Chapter VIII relates to the agriculture, &c. but it is scanty and unsatisfactory; and the same may be said of Chapter IX, which concerns the manufactures and trade. Chap. X is occupied with an account of the nobility, manners, ladies, &c. We were much amused with this part of the work, for it is so irresistibly comic (though written in "sober seriousness" by the author), that we were perfectly exhilirated into good humour. As a sample of the Poles in general, he gives a full length description of two or three ladies and gentlemen: which is about as sagacious a plan, as if a foreigner were to give an account of Mr. Sheridan and her Majesty as a specimen of English beauty. But then the beautiful metaphorical language of Mr. Burnett! Count Czartoryski has eye-brows which are "moveable by the electric touches of thought." The Countess Zamoyska has "sweetly pouting lips —beautiful dark eye-brows, exhibiting the gently waving line"—lovely eyes, lovely form, and, in fact, lovely every thing, for we cannot follow Mr. Burnett through all his sickening verbosity.

Chapter XI, which relates to the domestic accommodation of the Poles, is most interesting, because most complete, and it is most complete, because evidently most within the grasp of Mr. Burnett's observation. He gives us an unpleasant idea of the servants, who are avowed thieves whenever they can. Chap. XII is a sort of corollary to the former, relating to the diet and domestic life of the Poles, and in which we have a Polish bill of fare for breakfast, dinner, tea, and supper.

Chapter XIII describes the dress of the Polanders; among whom the ancient costume is rapidly declining, and the English manner very generally prevails. Yet there is scarcely any large company in which will not be found a few, attired after the ancient mode, being chiefly elderly men. Chap. XIV relates to the mode of salute, and Mr. Burnett seems to be quite in dudgeon at the prickly beards of some of his friends who greeted him with the accustomed kiss. The peasantry, in some instances, still fall at the feet of their lords when they have a favour to ask. A gentleman salutes a lady by kissing her hand, "on which occasion an elegant woman, if she happens to be standing, makes a quick and lively curtsey (*courtesy*), her

countenance assuming an expression of grateful joy, which is truly fascinating." Chapter XV considers the amusements of Poland, and from Mr. B.'s account of the Polish dances, we have extracted a short article in our present Number.——(*See the Bee, p.* 121.) Among the *amusements*, he classes a taste for collecting curiosities, and was surprised one day, at the Princess Czartoryska's, with the sight of *Shakspeare's chair*, which her highness had bought when in England.

"Her highness has also amassed a considerable collection of curiosities, of various descriptions. Among these, the reader may judge of my pleasing surprize on discovering—in the middle of Poland—the chair of *Shakspeare!* It was one day sent for to the saloon. A pretty large chair presently made its appearance, and seemingly consisted of one entire piece of wood, the back being a plane, and somewhat ornamented at the sides; but what appeared to me the strangest circumstance of all was, that the whole was painted or stained of a faint and delicate green colour. Being left to wonder for a while at appearances, which I found myself utterly unable to explain from the little knowledge I possessed of the antiquities of the reigns of Elizabeth and James, some hand was placed on the back of the chair, a great *case* was uplifted, and behold, a little, plain, ordinary and whitish wooden chair appeared, such as might haply be found in most of our cottages of the present day! This relic of our revered bard, the Princess procured some years ago when she was in England, and paid for it a very considerable sum; it seems to me that I was told, as much as three hundred pounds! At the same time was exhibited, cased in a similar manner, the chair of *Rousseau*, in no wise superior in elegance of workmanship."

Chapter XVI relates to the language and literature of Poland; but respecting the latter nothing is said in way of addition to what Mr. Pinkerton has communicated in his "Recollections of Paris." Chapter XVII, on the Universities, &c. offers nothing worthy of notice: not so Chapter XVIII, on the Polish society, which communicates one trait of immorality that almost staggers our belief. "Conjugal fidelity," says Mr. Burnett, "is a question of less anxious interest in Poland than in England, and a husband perhaps acts wisely in treating it with philosophic indifference. It is not uncommon to go through a family, and to remark upon each younger member—*that* was the fruit of such an amour—*that* of such an other, and so on." If this be true, we are indeed yet a virtuous people.

Chapters XIX and XX are of a political nature; and here Mr. Burnett is a simple narrator of well-known facts, and it is therefore unnecessary to follow him through them. But in Chap. XIX, speaking of the religion, we suspect he has committed an anachronism. "At a diet, held in 1658, it was ordered that the Socinians, who, under the auspices of Socinus himself, had made a greater progress in Poland than in any other country, should be banished; and the order was extended to the Arians, Calvinists, Lutherans, *Quakers*, and Memnonites." Now, George Fox, the founder of Quakerism, was not born till 1624, and did not begin to visit the continent to spread his doctrines till towards 1656, and it is hardly probable that his followers should have grown up in a few months to become objects of legal interference. We offer this merely as conjecture, for we have not space to accumulate evidence.

We have thus given an analysis of Mr. Burnett's book, and expressed the pleasure which it has given us in various parts. But we cannot dismiss the work without adverting to the language, which is shamefully incorrect and vitiated. Mr. B. vaunts himself in his title-page to be an Oxonian; but let him glance over the following *hortus siccus*, all culled from his own garden, and judge whether his Alma Mater may pride herself upon her son?

"Immediately contiguous to these princely palaces, are commonly seen houses which are quite ordinary, often *shabby*." p. 59.

"The dress *of* a Sunday is," &c. p. 84.

"A thoughtless and a *feelingless* person." p. 92.

"Indeed, my brain felt so *flaccid*." p. 182.—This is perfect nonsense.

"The deficiency is supplied by a rich cream, or milk with a fine head, which comes to table *scalt*." p. 231. Is the verb *to scald* an irregular one? and if not, why is the preterite participle irregular?

"There is a sort of *selfishment* in affection." p. 324.

"A girl, thus prematurely *womanised*" p. 326.—Mr. Burnett, having published some specimens of early English writers, might have known that the sense of this obsolete word is precisely the reverse of what he gives it. Sir P. Sidney says, "this effeminate love of a woman doth *womanise* a man."

"There seems to be no small portion of *trashy* philosophy," &c. p. 330.

"It appears, however, from subsequent events, that the *benefits* of this constitution *was* intended," &c. p. 342.

These will serve as land-marks to Mr. B. in his future literary efforts. They are not indeed all; nor have we selected some ingenious metaphors, (as at p. 32): but they are sufficient to excite a more than ordinary vigilance when next he sits down to compose.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THOUGHTS IN A DOCK-YARD:—*Building and Launch of a Man of War.*

NO sights of horror, nor her rocky shores
Deform'd with naval spoils, dread monitors,
What dangers lurk beneath insidious seas!
Dismay Neptunian Britain. All around
What future navies rise! Norwegian pines
Here stretch their trunks gigantic; British oaks
Here in proud stubborn piles oppress the ground;
Here, from the pitchy cauldron, fragrant clouds
Steam to the skies; and ripening vessels there,
Like the rude creatures on the delug'd bank
Of Nile, prolific flood, enrich the strand.
This, newly on its firm foundation fix'd,
Fatigues the gazer's eye, to comprehend
Her longitude immense. Another, boned
With sturdy oak, expands her arching limbs
Stupendous, like th'inverted columns proud
Of some antique cathedral. That, behold!
Approaching to perfection, wide unfolds
Her spacious penetralia. Clinging boys,
Like ants supine, that creep beneath the bough,
Hang on her sides, explore, and fortify
The secret chinks. Her ringing caverns, hark!
Rebound the din of labour, hurling quick
The clatt'ring echo far. And now, behold!
The swelling shines consummate. Symmetry
Rules through her every part, and grandeur strikes
The dazzled eye with awe. Her battlements
O'ertop the loftiest roofs; yon shipwright fix'd
High on her mast, where but a dwarf he hangs,
Plodding below, beneath a load of plank,
Seem'd some huge Sampson stalking o'er the beach
With the vast gates of Gaza. See! she rears
Her painted head; expands her sails; displays
Her crimson'd streamers to the wanton wind,
And like some racer foaming for the course,
Presses amain. Promiscuous crouds descend
Spectators of the launch. A tide of oil
Smooths her prone path; a sloping wat'ry bed,
Scooped from the sand, prepares to break her fall
With soft resistance, else her headlong beak,
Impetuous rushing to the vast profound,
Ponderous and huge, would plow the central earth,
And shiver into fragments. Silence now
Attends the chisel's solitary strokes,
With strict sedulity. She bows her head.
Hark! a shrill cheer. With VICTORY wing'd, a name
Of happy auspice, the baptismal wine
Flies joyous, and the jolly train embark'd
Dance on her deck, and, with impressive bound,
Give motion to the dubious oaken tower.
She steals, slides, sweeps, darts, flashes to the deep,
Serenely rapid; like some vulture pois'd,
That shoots the air, and never wants a wing,
The frighted sea recoils, and stands awhile
Collected. As when thundering at the door
Some din unusual frights the pack, confus'd
They roar aloof, till known, the huntsman's voice,
And feeding hand, obsequious they approach,
And hail his entrance with a choral peal;
Thus, with tumultuous haste, the waves return'd

To clasp their new inhabitant; who safe
As the proud temple wafted thro' the air
To righ Loretto, from the sacred clime
Of distant Palestine, performs her flight,
And floats incumbent o'er the wide abyss,
That rings with cheers, as when the morning stars
Together sang, and all the sacred train
Shouted for joy to see the new-born earth.
Then give the naval tribe to festive feasts
Their sweet sabbatic hours. Nor, as of old
The Demi-gods of Greece, do ALBION'S sons,
Destin'd to guide young Argo o'er the main,
Desire an Orpheus, with heroic strains
T' instil the soul of courage. Uncontroul'd
By apprehension, each or on a sea
Of wine embarks, or else with beauty weaves
The farewel dance, tho' storms portentous howl.
As golden insects, wak'd by genial May
To haunt each pool, and tinge their silver wings
In ev'ry stream, tho' scarce a wave but bears
Some flutt'ring friend, still wanton up the flood,
Unwarn'd, ambitious, candidates for death;
Thus Britain's youth ascend the bark, tho' foes
And shipwreck bar their way, and fear alone
Th' inglorious rust of sloth and down of ease.

Union House Academy, Lambeth,
December 24, 1807.

SONNET.—THE CONTRAST.

WHEN rolling thunders shake the sultry air,
And vivid lightnings pierce the evening's gloom,
The tender visage of the timid fair
Throws off the radiance of its wonted bloom!
Fear's ugly mien disorders all her frame—
Her eyes no longer shed their influence round;
E'en Love himself extinguishes his flame,
And trembles at the elemental sound!
But they whom wisdom guides, in peace survey
The bland empyreal roar with high delight!
With rapture view the forky lightnings play
Along the solitary blank of night!
The Poet's fancy roams to realms afar,
Darts through the void, and mingles in the war!

Grafton-Street, J. G.
January, 1808.

TO ELIZA.

YOU call yourself my Friend, and say
You glory in the name;
But tell me, can you in the day
When Poverty in dread array,
With Sorrow, drives each smile away,
Preserve the sacred flame?

Can you weep with me in distress?
Rejoice with me in joy?
Will you my injured fame redress,
The voice of Calumny repress,
And strive by Friendship's fond caress
Vexation to destroy?

Will you, when Fortune turns her wheel,
Refuse with her to bend:
When flatterers from my fire-side steal
At golden shrines elsewhere to kneel:
Will you the wounds of self-love heal,
And still remain my Friend?

When sickness warns me to desist
From life's gay bustling day,
While you to soothe my pain assist,
Of symptoms hear the daily list,
Nor from my pillow e'er be miss'd,
While beams the vital ray?

And when at last, in terrors drest,
Death clouds each earthly view,
Will you in Memory's hallowed vest
Seek the lone spot where I may rest,
And drop a tear? the last sad test
Of Friendship pure and true.

LAURETTA.

THEATRICAL RECORDER.

COVENT GARDEN.

SATURDAY, Jan. 30. *The Messiah.* To descant upon the merit and sublimity of Handel's Messiah, would savour as much of judgment as to call Shakspeare a fine writer. Of that to which general admiration has been conceded, there remains nothing to be said that is not a repetition of former applauses: the fame "*quæ terminet astris,*" has fixed its basis deeply, and it is therefore commendable brevity, to join the general voice by simple acquiescence. Yet we may be allowed to say, that this divine Oratorio was performed this evening with increased effect. — Braham and Mrs. Dickons were themselves a tower of strength.

The latter was particularly fine in the air "*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion,*" and in that of "*I know that my Redeemer liveth.*" She executed these with more judgment and skill than the recitative "*There were shepherds abiding in the field,*" &c. Braham was most happy in the recitative "*Thy rebuke has broken his heart,*" &c. Besides these, there were Mrs. Bland, Madame Dussek, Mr. Bellamy, Mr. Goss, &c. who severally distinguished themselves in the course of the evening.

Saturday, Feb. 6. *Hamlet (first time this season)—We fly by Night*— Of this evening's performance we might justly repeat what we have said above of the *Messiah*. The excellent performance of Mr. Kemble places such a picture before the mind, as is intensely felt but cannot be described. The peculiar beauties of the character, as acted by him, have been repeatedly pointed out; yet it is a justice which we owe both to our readers and to that gentleman to mention here a few of those which particularly struck us on this evening.

In the first soliloquy,

"O that this too too solid flesh," &c.

he was absorbed in grief; his eye, his countenance, spoke the settled melancholy of his heart; and his musings upon the strange depravity of the queen in wedding with his uncle were admirably pourtrayed. The line

"Frailty—thy name is woman,"

was delivered in an excellent manner: the pause after the word "frailty"—as if to collect in his own mind its worst character—and the under tone, full of inveteracy, with which he uttered "thy name is woman," were altogether admirable. In the subsequent scene with *Horatio*, he was equally excellent in his interrogative anxiety.

In the scene with his father's ghost, we admired very much the manner in which he repelled the fears of his companions, as to what the spirit might do, if he followed it.—

"Why, what should be the fear?
I value not my life at a pin's fee,
And for my soul, what can it do to that,
Being a thing immortal as itself?"

The glow of exultation with which he spoke the line

"Being a thing immortal as itself;"

triumphing, as it were, in his security, was a masterly conception.

In his first interview with *Guildenstern* and *Rosencranz*, his eye spoke all the suspicion he felt of them; while his conduct was open, courteous, and polite: and in the scene with the players, his endeavours to recollect the speech which he wishes to have spoken, were in the happiest and most natural manner.

But the climax of this evening's performance was the scene of the mock play. Mr. Kemble has so deeply studied the character of *Hamlet*, that there is not a look, a breathing, which does not correspond with the business of the moment. His easy, unaffected manner, while lying at the feet of *Ophelia*, his eyes from time to time rivetted upon the countenance of the king, and, as the plot advances, the eager agitation of his frame to note its effect upon his conscience, by which he writhes himself as it were half across the stage, formed altogether so fine a piece of acting, that the audience seemed transported beyond themselves in their reiterated plaudits. Nor ought we to forget the closet-scene with the Queen; and the manner in which he exclaimed "*Is it the king?*" a revengeful joy flashed across his countenance as he anticipated so hoped a sacrifice to his revenge.

The character of *Hamlet* requires, unquestionably, the most rare combination of talents in an actor, of any other in the whole English drama. He must be alternately grave, philosophic, sorrowful, kind, courteous, playful, severe, moralizing, incoherent: and transitions from one to the other of these must often be rapid, and frequent in the same speech.—Hence so few who have attempted *Hamlet* have succeeded: hence it has been considered as the utmost reach of the scenic art. Of Garrick we can only talk as others have talked before us, praise by rote, for we never saw him: but of present actors, we may say, and it is indeed no great compliment to Mr. Kemble to say it, that his *Hamlet* remains even unapproached by any of them.

The other characters this evening were performed with their usual mediocrity. What could be the reason that Mrs. Dickons, who played *Ophelia*,

and very badly too, was allowed to introduce Purcell's long, tedious, mournful, ditty of *Mad Bess!* With as much propriety Mr. Kemble might have introduced into his own character Dryden's song "Of a Scholar and his Mistress," when he sees *Ophelia.*

"Look! look! I see—I see my love appear! &c."

Mrs. Dickons is, indeed, very unfit for *Ophelia.* Her singing was too artificial to be plaintive and melancholy: and when mad, she skipped about, and prated with as much pertness of manner as a lively chambermaid would do.

Tuesday, Feb. 9.—*Begone dull Care; or, How will it end? (first time)*—*The Padlock.* This comedy is the production of Mr. Reynolds. Its plot is nothing: it consists rather of a series of disjointed scenes, and the denouement happens nobody knows how. The situations are some of them comic, and the language passes off very well, when assisted with grimace and action. The best drawn character in the play is that of Emery's, an honest, manly, feeling rustic; and it found in Mr. Emery a most able representative. We presume it was some motive of friendship that induced Mr. C. Kemble to take a part so utterly unworthy of his abilities: and as Mr. Pope is intended to be a modern gentleman, we think it would be as well if he dressed like one, and ordered his taylor to cut off the fine embossed steel buttons upon his coat. The letter which Miss Norton writes in the second act savoured something of the ridiculous: she should have written it first, and then read it, as to herself, and not pronounce each line before she writes it, that the audience may know what it is about. She must be a most excellent scribe, if she write half as quickly as she is here made to do. There are some good allusions to existing follies, which were very well received. The prologue was miserably stupid and impertinent: and it lost nothing of its former quality in the hands of Mr. Brunton. The epilogue was spoken by Miss Smith; it had something more of merit, and was well delivered.

DRURY-LANE.

Friday, Jan. 22.—*Something to Do, (first time)*—*Furibond.* We merely mention this play, to say that it was hooted off the stage. *De mortuis nil nisi bonum.*

Wednesday, Jan. 27.—*The Rivals*—*Matrimony.* This excellent comedy of our modern Congreve, without his grossness, was performed in a capital manner this evening. Mr. Elliston was every thing we could wish in *Faulkland,* that most delicate yet true lover: he pourtrayed most happily the quick sensibility of real and dignified love, and all the thousand inconsistencies which accompany that passion. *Faulkland* is not an ordinary lover: he is precisely that man whom a woman of feeling would wish to captivate. The sentiments he utters are those of a delicate and refined mind; and they were delivered by Mr. Elliston in a manner that delighted us.

Mr. Russell made his first appearance in *Captain Absolute*; but a gentleman's character sits awkwardly upon him: and for a gentleman to say *stoopid* for *stupid* is quite unpardonable, though we do not deny that a precedent might be found for it: but the stage should amend, not countenance error. Of Dowton's *Sir Anthony Absolute,* we can only speak in terms of the most unqualified commendation: it was chaste and natural. Mr. Bannister and Mr. Johnstone were equally excellent in *Acres* and *Sir Lucius O'Trigger:* and the sweet simplicity of Mrs. H. Siddons was admirably calculated to give effect to the tender and interesting *Julia.*

Thursday, Jan. 28.—*Love for Love*—*Furibond.* "The characters of Congreve," said Dr. Johnson, "are a sort of intellectual gladiators;" a remark that may most justly apply to the present play, in which there is such a perpetual scintillation of wit, that the mind becomes almost surfeited. One thing is certain, that Congreve has forgotten, in all his dramas, a just relative proportion: all his characters, from the master down to the lacquey, cannot open their mouths but out flies some shrewd remark, some humorous interpretation, or some display of wit; and as this lavish distribution of such a precious quality is not always accompanied with a corre-

sponding importance of character, the consequence is, that we must submit to lose much of its excellence on the stage from the mouthings of inferior actors. Of this, Mr. Eyre in *Scandal*, Mr. De Camp in *Jeremy*, and Mr. Purser in *Trapland*, made us fully sensible. Mr. Elliston in *Valentine* was but indifferent: he did clearly conceive the character: not so Mrs. Jordan: her *Miss Prue* still shines forth with undiminished excellence in all the coarse simplicity of untamed nature. Mr. Bannister, in *Ben*, was, as usual, a faithful delineator of a character badly drawn by the author: sailors, in Congreve's time, were a less known and less accurate portrait. We were surprised to hear Mr. Bannister, however, speak of "*contrary* winds."

Monday, Feb. 1.—*Pizarro*—*Furibond.* To say that we were utterly displeased this evening will be easily credited, when we present the following comparative cast of characters, as played at Covent-garden and this theatre:

	Covent-garden.	*Drury-lane.*
Rolla	Mr. Kemble	Mr. Elliston!
Alonzo	Mr. C. Kemble	Mr. H. Siddons.
Pizarro	Mr. Cooke	Mr Raymond!
Elvira	Mrs. Siddons	A Young Lady!

And first of the *Young Lady*. What the managers could mean by suffering such an attempt to be made upon the boards of a London theatre we know not. This *Young Lady*, whose name we have not heard, was never designed by nature, either in person, countenance, or mind, (if we may judge of the latter from her conception of *Elvira*) for any thing beyond a walking lady *on* the stage, or a waiting lady *off*. To criticise her acting would be a waste of time.

Mr. Elliston in *Rolla* bellowed most furiously. In the speech to his soldiers, he "tore it to very rags," and might, for aught we have heard to the contrary, "have split the ears" of the "groundlings." Nor is this the only fault we have to find. His conception of that speech was radically wrong: so absurdly wrong indeed, that it is wonderful to us how he could have erred so. Proclaiming to his army what might be expected from the Peruvians, Mr. Elliston said,

"*They* offer us their protection, &c."
"*They* say they come but to, &c."
"*They* call upon us to barter, &c."

and so on through the whole speech. Now, as there is no parallel in this address between what one offers and what another offers, it is evident that this emphasis is misplaced, and that it should be transferred to the verb. But Mr. Elliston is culpably lax in his application of emphasis, and seems to have an undue partiality for *little* words.

"His monosyllables like thunder roll,
And he, she, we, ye, it, they, fright the soul." CHURCHILL.

Rolla, in fact, is one of those characters which Mr. Kemble has so *individualized*, (*pour ainsi dire*, and we have Boileau's authority) that there is little chance of pleasing, unless his manner be closely imitated: and even then, such is the fastidiousness of man, we should be disgusted, because an imitation.

"I hate e'en Garrick thus at second hand."

Mr. Elliston, however, wants dignity for this character; in short, Mr. Elliston is not a tragedian, however much the applause of the galleries may tempt him to think so.

Thursday, Feb. 11.—*Kais*; *or*, *Love in the Deserts*, *(first time)*—*Virgin Unmasked.* This four-act opera is the production of a Mr. Brandon, a gentleman, we are informed, of the Jewish persuasion. The story is taken from a well known eastern tale, but it is here wrought up with little skill. The language is below mediocrity; and some aukward attempts to praise the English by an Egyptian story-teller (Bannister) were received with hisses. The plot is meagre and uninteresting; the dialogue most scantily diffused, so that it is but a word and a song. All the music is pretty, but old: we recognised stolen goods in almost every part of it. Two or three of Braham's songs, who plays *Kais*, were delightfully sung, particularly that in the fourth act. Mrs. Mountain and Signora Storace also had some very charming airs allotted to them. The scenery, decorations, processions, &c. have been got up with much magnificence: yet we are convinced that it will never be popular, such is its intrinsic demerit in incident and dialogue. Some judicious alterations were made after the first

night, but the hisses of the sensible part of the audience are still to be heard each evening. Singing and music are both very delightful: but to cram us with three hours of shakes and chromatics, without one interval of sense to satisfy our minds, is somewhat more than an English audience can endure.

In the after-piece, Mr. De Camp extravagantly overacted the character of *Coupee.*

Friday, Feb. 12. *Kais — Mayor of Garratt.* — We notice this evening's performance merely to pay tribute to the excellence of Dowton's acting in *Major Sturgeon,* in the after-piece.— It was a truly original delineation. Mr. Russell, too, was an excellent representation of *Jerry Sneak.* Yet we could wish that the fine satire, and wit, and humor of the piece could be preserved without its grossness and obscenity.

THE NEW PATENTS.

Mr. W. CHAPMAN's *and* Mr. E. W CHAPMAN's, *for a Method of making a Belt, or Flat Band, for drawing Coals, or other ponderous Substances, up the Shafts of Mines, &c.*

THE nature of this invention consists, first, in the combination of two, or any greater number of strands of shroud-laid rope, laid side by side, so as to form any determinate breadth of belt or flat band; and secondly in the peculiar machinery for facilitating its formation. A strand of a shroud-laid rope is the first combination of the yarns which are twisted together round one common axis so as to form a compact cylindric mass: and the common shroud-laid rope is formed of three of these strands twisted together the contrary way to the twist of the strand, which for common purposes is necessary, although the loss of strength is so considerable that exclusive of the reduction of length from its being made into a rope, the strength of two strands made in such a way as to make all the yarns bear an equal tension or nearly so, will, when laid side by side be nearly equal to that of three such strands combined in a rope; from which circumstance the chief advantage arises in forming the strands into belts, instead of making them into ropes. The belts will be best composed of an equal number of strands, each alternate one twisted the contrary way to the other, so as to counteract the tendency they would otherwise have to twist round one another. It is also eligible that the yarns for the differently twisted strand should be twisted contrary ways. Four, six or eight strands will form the most convenient belt; but each extreme will verge towards its respective disadvantage; viz. if liable to be chafed, the broad belt will be injured the soonest; but on the other hand, the narrow belts from the necessarily increased thickness of the strands, will sooner destroy themselves by bending over the pulleys. In forming the flat belts, attention should be paid to the strands being all brought to an equal tension before they are combined together, which combination may be done just as may please the manufacturer. They may be rivetted together at proper intervals, with strong iron wires, or laced, or stitched together. The easiest way of stitching them is, whilst they are laid at length in the rope-ground, to attach each strand to a rope; on which, by means of leading pulleys equal loads, or weights, may be suspended, which will stretch each strand equally. If these weights descend to the ground, they may be raised by heaving at the opposite end of the proposed belt. Means of course must be taken to prevent the strands from untwisting, which may easily be done by fastening a sufficient weight below each, where they are attached to the stitching ropes, so as to prevent their turning round. The degree of tension upon each strand should be proportionate to what the whole belt has to bear. The remaining process is to combine the strands side by side, which, as before observed, may be done just as the operator chuses. In the use of the belts for raising weights of any kind, it will be best to combine the belt so as to roll upon itself as a spiral: but in some cases this may be dispensed with. The hauling forward of the truck, any determinate space between each stitch, may be done by means of a winding barrel on the

sledge, and a chain or rope leading from it to any fixed object, and by various other ways, though the progressive transition of the machine from place to place is one of its most constituent parts; because without this moveability it could not be applied to the stitching of any belt, where its parts, to be thus connected, are lying stretched at length, side by side. But if the operator prefer drawing forward the belt or flat band as it is stitched, then the truck or frame may be stationary and without wheels. All that this invention consists of, is the use of strands laid side by side so as to acquire a strength which ropes used in the same manner would not possess: and also the invention of the truck or frame and its apparatus for combining speedily and correctly together any requisite number of strands, or other flexible substances laid side by side.

Mrs. ELIZABETH BELL'S, *for certain Improvements in an artificial Method of sweeping Chimnies, and an Improvement in the preparing and manufacturing Pieces used for constructing the Chimnies.*

MRS. BELL about four years ago took out a patent for objects similar to the present; but, by this latter invention, she proposes to remedy the inconveniences attached to the former. Mrs. Bell denominates her present plan an improved method: and it consists of a frame of iron, or other materials, composed of two semi-circles, which should possess a considerable degree of adjustment by means of screws, so as to encompass and adapt themselves to all the various sizes of chimney-pots that are now in use. To these semi-circles upright bars are attached, at the top of which are fixed cross-bars with a couple of supports, which cross-bars contain the friction roller, over which, the chain, rope, or line, may be made to pass, while it performs its passage of ascent and descent in the act of cleaning. This apparatus not only enables a person to sweep any chimney from the bottom of it, but also provides a ready method of keeping the chain, line, or rope, in a situation so that the chimney may be cleaned at a moment's warning. Mrs. Bell having described her main plan goes on to a particular description of the brush and other parts of the apparatus, taking care to discriminate between the invention of it as it now stands, and what it was in 1808. She also describes her method of extinguishing chimneys on fire by means of blocks, of which she observes,

"And I further improve the blocks by making them of such a form as may render them capable of being put to a certain height in the chimneys which have been previously built of a square form. In this case I make the exterior form of the blocks of a circular figure, with levelled or sloping joints, and over-lappings, so formed that with the aid of cement, no air or smoke can penetrate them; and I sometimes make them with knees or slopings to assimilate with the level of the flues of these chimneys. The said circular blocks may not only be used for the purpose of conveying smoke, but also every other kind of fluid, or bodies in a pulverulent state; and in order to render them generally useful, and in all situations fit to convey water, &c. and, that they may be incapable of injuring the water or fluids, I give the internal part, a certain degree of vitrification by the best substances used for the purpose of producing it powerfully and firmly. This also protects them from external injury, and adds to the strength of the pipes or blocks used for the conveyance of fluids, &c." There is also another method laid down for constructing the said blocks, not materially different from that already described.

Mr. OBADIAH ELLIOT'S *for Improvements in the Construction of Coaches, Chariots, and various other Four-wheel Carriages.*

TO describe this patent without figures, it is necessary to observe that it consists in the construction of coaches or other four-wheel carriages, without a perch, or cranes. With this view, there are fore and hind springs, which are fastened to two beds that project from the body or the boot; and two pieces of timber are framed before the carriage, and when required, two also behind from the front and hind seat rails, which project out at each end of the body to receive the spring bed, or beds. There is also

a horizontal wheel fixed to the body or the boot, for the purpose of locking round. The top front springs are fixed to the bed which projects from the horizontal wheel; there is a spindle-bar fixed into the bed; the hind springs are fixed with a projection from the body, the same as the front, but without the horizontal wheel. The drawing that accompanies the specification of this patent exhibits the whole construction in a very clear manner. The patentee uses springs either with or without braces as may suit convenience; and he varies the size, shape, or form, according to existing circumstances, or as different roads may require. If necessary, he fixes braces, ropes, or chains from any part of one axle tree to the other, and from the fore axle tree to the splinter-bar.

TRANSACTIONS OF LEARNED & ECONOMICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

N. CARLISLE, Esq. has communicated some ingenious observations on the round painted boards containing verses and figures, found in some families in Staffordshire, and called *rondles*. A great many conjectures on the origin and use of these boards, about five inches in diameter, and one fourth of an inch thick, were extracted from the Gentleman's Magazine. It is supposed they are of the age of Henry VII or VIII; had been imported from Flanders, and used either as conversation cards, or wooden platters. Their being found chiefly in Staffordshire sanctioned this opinion, and that they might have been the forerunners of our Delft ware. The poetical stanzas, written in old English characters, are chiefly amatory, and some of them rather indelicate; both the verse and the sentiments, equally slovenly and trifling. The figures which are coarse, are mostly painted round the outside, and the verses in the centre.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

THE lectures of this learned body having commenced, they are to consist of the following courses:—Mr. Davy, on Geology and the Elements of Electro-Chemical Science; Mr. Allen, on Mechanical Inventions and Natural Philosophy; Mr. Coleridge, on the distinguished English Poets, in illustration of the general principles of Poetry; the Rev. Mr. Crowe, on Architecture, an extended course; the Rev. Mr. Hewlett's fourth Course on Belles Lettres; the Rev. Mr. Dibdin's third Course on English Literature; Dr. Calcott, on German Music, and that of the eighteenth century; Dr. Smith, on Botany; Mr. Craig, on the Principles and Practice of Drawing, Painting, and Engraving; and Mr. Wood, on Perspective.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

A method of preserving Potatoes.

IN the Annals of Agriculture, Vol. XXXIV, page 511, is given a method of preserving potatoes for a length of time in full perfection, by Mr. L. Millington: if this could be brought into extensive practice for the use of public institutions or the Navy, it would bid fair to become a great resource in case of the failure of a crop; and upon a large scale, might very much assist a general scarcity. The account is as follows:

"I took three pounds and a half of potatoes, and had them peeled and rasped, and put them into a coarse cloth between two clean boards in a press, and pressed them into a dry cake like a thin cheese, which I placed on a shelf to dry; a quart of juice was expressed, to which I added a quart of cold water, and in about an hour it deposited 60 grains of very white starch or flour, fit to make pastry. This cake was kept near three years very sweet: the potatoes lost about two thirds in weight by the process, but upon being dressed, either by steam or otherwise, will produce nearly the same weight and quantity of food the potatoes would do. Potatoes after washing and peeling and cleaning from discoloured specks might be pounded or ground, and pressed into these cakes or cheeses, for the use of the navy, or against scarcity, and might supply this important article of food in all seasons. Machinery of the nature of the washing machine, and cider-press might greatly facilitate this mode of preservation." He further

says, "I boiled a piece of the cake made three years ago, and it turned out perfectly sweet and pleasant to the taste. It is necessary the potatoes should be perfectly ripe to keep well." I think this experiment well worthy of being pursued further; and if some quick and expeditious, and consequently cheap method could be introduced of thus preparing and preserving large quantities of this article of food, and a market opened for its sale in this form, and state of preservation, it might prove a great resource in future scarcities, and be well worth encouraging by premiums.

A Plan for improving the Growth of Tares. By Mr. Thomas Herod, of North Creak, Norfolk.

Tares to be sown broad-cast in October from ten to twelve pecks per acre, with one peck of *wheat*, then ploughed into four furrow ridges. In the months of April and May, a one horse plough (double breast) is to be run through the furrows: this will keep them clean, and admit the air to the roots of the tares, and will keep them green and growing till Midsummer.

Observations.—Tares being found very useful for the soiling of cattle, and the best plan of growing them being required by the Board, I submit one for their consideration which I have practised seven years with success. They are a plant which contain a great deal of moisture, particularly when young, therefore it is not proper to soil cattle with them in that state, without dry food. Those persons who are destitute of that must give tares very *sparingly*, or they injure their stock more than they are aware of. On the general plan of sowing, soon after they are at an age proper for the stock, they begin to rot at the bottom; to obviate which, some people sow rye, some oats, and some barley; the stems of the latter being weak, of course, they can have no effect: the former soon get hard, and the cattle refuse to eat them, and by endeavouring to avoid them destroy many of the tares, treading them under foot: therefore, on that plan they cannot be grown to so great an advantage as might be hoped for. If it had been considered that *air* is the most essential means of the life, both of the animal and vegetable creation, a different plan would have been resorted to. It is well known that tares grow so close together at the tops, as to exclude all the external air from the bottoms, and though they keep green at the tops where they receive the air, they continue rotting at the bottoms for want of it. When they are cut for soiling, the stock, refusing to eat the decayed part, destroy a great deal of the sound food: the loss to the growers of this plant therefore is not to be calculated. My first attempt at improvement was on two roods of ground for the soiling of two horses, sown as first stated, and ploughed into four furrow ridges: they continued growing with rapidity to the height of near five feet, *clinging to the wheat*. A high wind took them about Midsummer, and bent them all down, but not close to the ground; some yards might be seen up the furrows which appeared like an arch. These furrows admitted the *light* as well as the *air*, which is also a means of preserving the plants green, for if *air* is admitted and *light* taken away, they may continue growing, but they will lose their colour. These two roods produced more than my two horses could eat: after Midsummer, the remainder were cut, and produced half a load of excellent hay. This land is a sandy soil upon a gravel; six loads of farm-yard dung were ploughed in with the tares. Last year and the preceding year, I had two roods on a black gravel sown on this plan; had no other manure than a thin covering of mould from an old bank in the same piece: the first crop was but middling. I gave it another thin covering of mould from the head land of the same piece last year, as the ground was weak. I sowed six pecks of tares, and three quarters of a peck of *wheat*; this proved a good crop, and after soiling two horses with them from the end of May till the middle of August, half a load were cut for seed. I have always found that two roods of tares sown on this plan were *more than two horses could eat*. I am well convinced from my own practice, that tares sown on poor land will improve it, if repeated a few crops; they may also be grown to great advantage, if sown on this plan, as the food will not only be sound

and sweet, but also in much greater quantity. It has been supposed they would be inconvenient to cut on the ridges; but I believe they may be cut better than when they are fallen close to the ground, and rotten. The reasons for my sowing *wheat* among the tares, are, the stems of the wheat are not only strong and hold the tares up, but they are also so sweet that the stock will eat them with as much avidity as they do the tares, and to as late a time as the tares are proper to be cut for soiling. If the above statement is thought worthy of notice, it is humbly submitted to the Honourable Board's approbation, trusting that their candour will forgive the infringement on their time. T. H.

We the undersigned have examined the above statement, and find it to be correct, as our lands adjoin those of the writer's, where these experiments were tried.

R. PRESS, Gent.
D. SAUNDERS, Farmer.
J. SAUNDERS, Farmer.

North Creak, near Burnham, April 24, 1805.

VARIETIES, LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL;

With Notices respecting Men of Letters, Artists, and Works in Hand, &c. &c.

DR. UWINS, of Aylesbury intends shortly to publish a small Tract, entitled Modern Medicine, which will contain a familiar explanation of the most prominent discoveries and doctrines that have conduced to the recent advancement of medical philosophy; a critical disquisition on the mode in which medicine is cultivated and practised in the present period; and, an enquiry how far the principles upon which the healing art is founded may with propriety constitute a subject of unprofessional research.

It is in agitation to reprint an exact and literal copy of the first folio of Shakspeare's plays, now usually sold at a very enormous a price.

The Epistolary Correspondence between the late Mrs. Carter and Miss Talbot, and a Series of Letters from Mrs. Carter to Mrs. Vesey; in two quarto volumes, will be published in the course of the spring.

Mr. Capel Loft's collection of Sonnets, so long expected, will shortly make their appearance.

An edition of the late Mr. Harmer's Observations on Scripture, with numerous additions, by the Rev. A. Clarke, one edition of which was lately consumed by fire in Fleet-Street, is nearly ready for publication.

Mr. Crabbe will shortly publish a second part of the work called the Preceptor and his Pupils; containing dialogues, examinations, and exercises on the two succeeding parts of grammar, namely, Syntax and Prosody.

Miss Savory, author of a short poem entitled Inspiration, has a Volume of Original Poetical Tales in the press, founded on interesting facts.

A Life of Luther, is in great forwardness by Mr. Bower. It will contain a full and circumstantial account of that great Reformer, and the revolution he accomplished. The author has been unwearied in searching the most original and voluminous documents and the contemporary records, by which he has been enabled to exhibit a more complete and interesting picture of this extraordinary man than has yet been presented to the British public.

A new translation of Virgil's Georgics, and Mr. Colman's popular dramas, The Iron Chest, The Surrender of Calais, The Battle of Hexham, and The Heir at Law, are in the press.

Two additional volumes of D. Espriella's Letters from England, will shortly be published, as well as a new edition of the former volumes.

Mr. G. Gottlieb is preparing an account of his travels in North America, in the years 1806, 1807. It is to be illustrated with a great number of wood cuts.

The Pastoral Care, a Didactic poem in three parts, by the Rev. G. Grant, M.A. is nearly ready for the press.

Mrs. Hall intends to publish a Manual of Botany and Vegetable Physiology, principally intended for the instruction of the female sex.

Lord Valentia's Voyages and Travels to India, Ceylon, the Red Sea, and Egypt, in the years 1802, 3, 4, 5, and

6, are in the press. They will form three volumes in royal and imperial quarto, and will be embellished with forty five highly finished engravings, exclusive of inscriptions, maps, &c.

From the Manuscripts which Mr. Fox has left, it appears to have been his intention to have given a detailed history of the reign of James II. But, in order to explain the causes of many of the events he had to record, he wrote an introduction, comprehending a view of the important part of the English history immediately preceding the accession of the last James. Had he lived to complete his work, he would have continued it down to the final expulsion of the Stuart family and settlement of the Revolution, but only two chapters of the reign of James were written out in a state fit for the press, by Mr. Fox; and these close with the execution of the Duke of Monmouth. The introduction is also in a perfectly finished state, and is executed in a manner worthy of the talents of the great Statesman who composed it. Lord Holland has written a Preface to the Work, which is now committed to the press, and an appendix, containing some important State Papers which had been consulted by Mr. Fox, will be added.

The Chinese drawings and books sold by the Executors of the late Marquis of Lansdown to the British Museum, consist of the following articles: —Six Chinese books, in a folding case, and one on accounts; a book representing twelve different sorts of Chinese vessels; a fine map of the country, divided into compartments, elegantly delineated; twenty-four original drawings of fruits and flowers, with their names in the Chinese language; one hundred original views of the interior of China, with a great number of figures drawn by the best Chinese artists, very highly finished; thirty-six original and highly finished drawings of the manners, customs, and trades of China; one hundred and ten superb drawings of the finest flowers and plants of China, finished in the most chaste, exquisite, and masterly manner by the first artists of that country. All these rarities were sent from China to the Marquis of Lansdown, during his lifetime.

The Count de Vaux has invented a machine which will shew the latitude and longitude at sea, serving also for weighing any object for measuring space, or the course of a ship and time; shewing and keeping account upon dials and upon cosmographical columns which are part of the machine; and shewing also the lee-way of a ship. Part of the machine is applicable to other purposes.

New Remarks on the management of Leeches.—The present scarcity and high price of leeches make it inconvenient to procure them, and generally impossible for the poor to purchase them. We may prevent their being destroyed or rendered useless by bad management.

When the Leeches are gorged, and fall from the part to which they have been applied, instead of putting them into salt, which often destroys them, if you take hold of the tail and press them towards the head, in the manner of milking, between the thumb and fingers, all the blood they have sucked will be forced out of their mouths, often spurting out as from a prick with a lancet. They bear the necessary pressure of stroking without any injury, and will often suck better than before, even if immediately applied again.

Leeches having been used and not wanted again directly, being thus treated, should be put into a decanter or bottle of fresh water, with a little clean sand or earth; and are thus not only preserved, but rendered as lively as when they were taken from their native bed.

America.

A bed of coal, four miles in length, has been discovered in the Ulster county, State of New York. Samples of a most excellent kind have been laid before the corporation of that city; and from the contiguity of the canal to the river Hudson, it is expected that all the cities on the banks of the latter will soon receive supplies.

John M. Mason, D.D. and John Bristed, Esq. of New York, are about to publish elegant and correct editions of the Latin and Greek Classics: and also correct editions of Classical Dictionaries.

Dr. Mason has completed his first volume of the Christian Magazine, which has excited considerable attention in the United States, as the number printed of this work is 2500, a quantity never known before to have been produced of any periodical work whatever.

Several interesting political pamphlets have lately appeared in America, viz. "The British Treaty," attributed to Govenor Morris, "War or no War," and, "Peace without Dishonour, &c." by a Yankee Tanner. These works stand the highest in the public estimation, and have been published in England.

France.

The Emperor Napoleon's annual prize of 3000 lives for the best experiment made in the course of the year, on the Galvanic fluid, has been decreed to Mr. Davy, member of the Royal Society of London, for his Memoir on the Chemical Action of Electricity.

DAVID'S GRAND PICTURE.—On Monday, the 4th January, their Majesties paid a visit to M. David, to see his picture of the Coronation. They were accompanied by several Ladies of the Palace, Marshal Bessieres, M. Le Brun, several Chamberlains and Pages. Horse Guards preceded and followed their carriages. In order to appreciate all the details of this visit, in which the Emperor seemed to intend to do honour to the arts in the person of the first painter of the age, it is necessary to have before us the Picture of M. David—it is thirty feet long and nineteen high. There are upwards of 200 figures as large as life —Wishing as much as possible to represent in one single action the Coronation of the Emperor and Empress, which, during the ceremony, took place successively, the Artist has chosen the moment in which the Emperor, after having placed on his own head one after the other, two Crowns, has taken the second, and, raising it, is in the act of placing it on the head of his august Empress. The two principal figures occupy the centre of the picture.—The Emperor is standing on one of the steps of the altar.—The Empress is on her knees, her hands clasped, and raised towards her Sovereign, in token of her gratitude and respect.—This fine figure has all the dignity which the subject could require, and all the nobleness and grace of the original. On the right, and before the altar, is the Pope sitting. Cardinal Fesch, Grand Almoner; other Cardinals, an Archbishop, a great number of Italian and French bishops, the Arch-Chancellor, the Arch-Treasurer, the Prince of Neufchatel, the Viceroy of Italy, the Grand Equerry, the Prince of Ponte Corvo; further off, Prince Murat, Marshals Moncey, Serrurier, Bessieres, and the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, are grouped near his Holiness, and surround the altar. On the left, near the Empress, are the sisters of the Emperor, the Queen of Naples, the Queen of Holland, the Kings, his Majesty's brothers; Marshals Lefebvre, Perignon, Kellerman; several Ladies of Honour, and the Chamberlain of the Princesses. In front in a box, are Madame, the Emperor's Mother, her Ladies of Honour and Officers of her Household; and towards the bottom, some persons eminent for their talents. In an adjoining box are the Foreign Ambassadors.

As soon as his Majesty looked at the picture, he said—"How delightful! What relief in all the pictures! How beautiful! What truth!—It is not a painting—it is real life."—His Majesty then looked at the box in the middle, and immediately recognised his mother, afterwards Madame Soult, Madame de Fontanges, de Lovelle, and General Beaumont.—"I see at a distance good Mr. Vien."—Yes, Sire, (replied M. David) I wished to do homage to my Master, by placing him in a picture which, for its object, will be the most important of my works. The sentiment was approved of by his Majesty, who appeared to take pleasure in proving to M. David that he recognised all the persons in the picture. His attention was next directed to the group in which he is represented as on the point of crowning the Empress. He expressed his satisfaction in these words—"The time is well chosen—the action well described, and each of the figures extremely good."—The Empress agreed with the Emperor.

The Emperor remained much longer before the picture, praised the different parts and the whole. The day however declining, his Majesty, as he was on the point of departing, stopped a moment before the artist, pulled off his hat, and expressed those sentiments of benevolence which he evinces for all great talents.—(*Moniteur.*)

The Po is to be joined to the Mediterranean by a Canal, which shall proceed from the Bormida at Carcare to Savona.

The Church of St. Genevieve, which is taking down, is to be replaced by a *rue* to be called the Street of King Clovis.

The tower of the Church is to be preserved, in remembrance of one of the most ancient monuments existing in France. The old Church of St. Genevieve was built before Clovis, who was buried in it.

PLOUGH PREMIUM.—The Agricultural Society for the department of the Seine has proposed to give at the Easter Meeting of 1809, a prize of 6000 francs for the best plough, accompanied with the best memorial, theoretical and practical, containing the soundest views and the best ascertained experiments on the construction and use of the plough: the price of the plough will also be allowed. The two next best ploughs and memorials will be entitled to 1500 francs each. The latter may be written in French, German, English, Italian, Spanish, or Latin.

Germany.

The University of Gottingen has announced the following as the subject for a Prize Essay:—"What is the influence of the acid and other kinds of gasses upon electricity produced by friction? What are the relations of the other electrical phenomena, such as attractions, repulsions, sparks, &c. with the principal gasses? This question has been announced two successive years, but the memoirs, not being satisfactory, it has been renewed for the year 1809. The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences at Gottingen have offered 60 golden ducats for the best memoir on the difference of colour remarked between the blood of the veins, and that of the arteries, which has induced an opinion among the learned, that the same difference exists in the blood of the embryo in a certain degree; but, as experience has never confirmed this theory, the Society is desirous that, by *researches and direct experiments upon healthy mothers*, either by the instant ligature of the umbilical cord at its two extremities, at the moment of birth, or by any other way, it should be determined if there really exists an inverse difference in the colour of the blood; in what it consists; what are the constituent principles of the blood of the infant, keeping out of the question the acid particles which must be mixed with it by the contact of the atmosphere.

The Emperor of Austria has given permission to all the Booksellers in the hereditary estates to dispose of those books which had been prohibited since the Emperor Joseph II, upon condition that they should not sell any, those excepted which were laying in their warehouses. No fresh sets are allowed to be imported, nor any new editions to be printed.

Dr. Beer, a celebrated Oculist, of Vienna, has addressed a small work to the medical geetlemen of Great Britain, containing twenty-nine ingenious queries respecting the opthalmia that has recently appeared in the British army, but which is still a stranger in the continental armies. Hitherto, it seems, the medical practitioners are unacquainted with this disorder.

Italy.

Amongst the antique statues in the gallery of the Villa Borghese, which Bonaparte is said to have purchased, those most admired are, a fawn caressing an infant Venus; Aphroditus rising from the water, with Love, a Grecian bas relief; two statues of young Ministers of Sacrifices, the heads, arms, and legs of bronze, the bodies and draperies of marble; the Gladiator, a morceau of Agathias of Ephesus; a bust of Vespasian, the head of which is of porphyry; a Berenice of very fine workmanship; a Diana, a very antique statue; Apollo and Daphne; a Diogenes; and lastly a Seneca, of black marble, expiring in the bath, &c.

Sweden.

According to a statistical account lately published of this country, the

sterility of the females seems to correspond, in a great measure, with that of the soil. The registers of the parish of Kraklinge near Strengnas, state that out of three hundred and four married women, thirty-four were childless: twenty-eight had each one child only; thirty-three had two children each; forty, three; twenty-nine, four; thirty-two, five; thirty-four, six; twenty-eight, seven; eight, nine; eleven, ten; three, eleven; one, thirteen; and one only sixteen. Out of these two hundred and seven mothers, twenty-seven of them had only sons; thirty-three, only daughters; fifty, as many sons as daughters; eighty-eight, more sons than daughters; and seventy-two, more daughters than sons.

Hardly the tenth part of the population of Sweden is collected in towns. All Sweden contains only 105 market towns, nine of which count 4000 inhabitants and upwards. The towns are scattered at great distance. In the whole provinces of Herjedalen, and Jamteland, nearly 120 English miles broad, there is not a single town. Stockholm, in 1802, reckoned only 80,000 inhabitants. The writer observes, "It was certainly over-magnanimous in the King of Sweden to provoke the aggression of the French in Swedish Pomerania;" and that if he should be driven into a hostile confederacy against England, his country will still be a greater sufferer, commerce will be nearly annihilated, and the fisheries and mines of Sweden, its principal sources, dried up. The southern countries alone, and Finland, raise in good years only as much corn as they want; when this fails they are sometimes forced not only to mix straw, roots and the bark of the beech with their bread, but to make it intirely of the bark. This composition is called *Stampebread.* Can it then for a moment be wondered at, that the Swedes should have expressed their dissatisfaction at an administration which has wantonly increased their misery by an injudicious interference in the broils of the continent?

STATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

THE events upon the Continent have sufficiently attracted the notice of every inquiring mind. Of wars, and battles, and ruins of kingdoms, we have had enough: why is not peace restored to a tired out world, is the question at home and abroad; or, if upon the Continent the English are represented to be the great disturbers of mankind, no small anxiety exists at home, that we should be able to give a satisfactory answer to such an accusation. On this account the meeting of parliament was looked to with great solicitude, and from its debates we expected to have a plain and clear account of the reasons of that conduct, by which this country instead of being looked up to as the deliverer, is now reputed to be the oppressor of Europe.

The Copenhagen business was naturally the prominent feature. It has been debated over and over again, and in all manner of shapes. Long speeches have been made from both sides of the house, and divisions have taken place; but the majority has been decidedly in favour of the ministers. If the parliament then speaks the sense of the nation, the nation is decidedly committed upon this heart-breaking business; and whilst the nation justifies this business, and all our former allies except the king of Sweden, (and his nation is, we believe, far from being united in the same opinion with its sovereign), and all the rest of Europe reprobate the measure, one tribunal only is open to decide upon its merits. At that tribunal nations are amenable for their conduct, and exemplary justice follows a dereliction of principle. This language was held in strong terms by a member of the lower house, and in both houses were men who spoke against the measure as pernicious in every respect, as injurious to the morality of the country, and destructive of its political interests. But, however, strong might be the language of the few, the orators we may call them of the houses, of those, who are accustomed to make long speeches, it is to be remarked, that the great majority of the house

was content with a silent opinion. They who were absent must be set down as persons from whatever causes it might arise, not disfavouring the measure; and, as the opinion of those who reprobated the measure has not been strengthened by any public testimony out of doors, the Copenhagen business may be considered to be completely settled in this country, and we must abide its consequences. What these consequences may be, God only knows: to him we must resign ourselves, and if necessary, kiss the rod by which we are to be chastised.

The articles of the treaty of Tilsit are well known, and the fate of the unfortunate war has been satisfactorily explained. By one article of that treaty, Russia was to be the mediator of peace between France and this country. For the refusal of this mediation, a satisfactory account was expected to be given to parliament. The refusal is laid to the charge of certain secret articles, but these articles are not yet known, and it is farther justified on the idea, that Russia was thrown into the hands of France, and was incapable of acting with impartiality. This latter point has been very much laboured, but we cannot say, that the arguments for it brought conviction with them. The arrival of Lord Hutchinson has been attended with much new information, and his speeches in the house of lords have thrown a light upon the subject, which could not have been expected from any other quarter. It is evident, that the Russians maintained the contest to the utmost of their abilities: never were bloodier battles. Their sovereign was too wise to risque his life and throne to no earthly purpose whatsoever, and in his treaty for peace, which was just and necessary, he did not forget the interests of his allies. He did for them all that existing circumstances permitted. He had fought to the utmost, and in making peace, he wished that repose should be restored to Europe. Nothing hindered it but the animosities between the French and English, and who so good a mediator between them as he, who so lately was the firm ally, and continued to be the ally of one party, and who had so lately made peace with the other. It was not necessary, that mediation should be followed by peace, and it might have been useful to England to know, what was the real state of the war. The mediation was however refused, and some secret intelligence about secret articles was a prelude to war with Russia. So easy is the passage among Englishmen, from the warmth of friendship to the most savage enmity. The Copenhagen business increased the flame, and the Emperor of Russia received the news of that heart breaking business in a manner, that discovered great sensibility. All commerce with England was immediately interdicted, and it will probably be never re-established on its ancient footing.

France being determined to exclude Great Britain from the Continent, it was thought necessary by the privy council of this country, to take measures for retaliation. The orders of council on this subject are voluminous, intricate, scarcely intelligible, and of doubtful practicability. Whether they will injure ourselves, our allies, or our enemies, the most, is a problem which remains to be solved. Their legality is even called in question. Whatever they are, and few, who are not particularly interested in them, will read them, they took up the time and the attention of parliament; but the discussion did not tend to throw much light upon the subject. Mr. Baring, an eminent merchant, has written a pamphlet, which conveys more real and solid information on the interests of a trading country, than will be obtained by the harangues of civil law doctors, and mutual recriminations of contending parties.

So much interesting matter before the house scarcely required any thing additional, when lo! the country was surprised by a new subject, which promises at least much novel information, and many curious and important facts will be brought to light. It may be remembered, that Lord Henry Petty, when he was laying so heavy a hand upon the lower and middle classes of society, and justifying the harshness of his measures by the necessity of the times, made that very same necessity the ground for increasing very considerably the allowances to the princes of the royal family. The measure shewed exactly the nature of the

late ministers, and was a very strong and a very justifiable reason for the little interest that the people took in their dismission from office. But, when the people heard with amazement the speeches of Lord Henry Petty, little did they think, that a very different source was open for supplying the wants of the younger branches of the royal family; and that when every person above sixty pounds a year, and every person rich or poor, who had a farthing in the funds, was contributing to make up the deficiencies, arising from the hardness of the times, a cornucopia was left behind to shower upon the princes abundance without measure.

To understand this, it is requisite to have clear ideas of war and peace, and their effects. In a state of war captures from the enemy become the property of the captors; in a state of peace property may be seized by order of the crown, to which the captors have not any right, as in the case of the Dutch frigates in the last war, and of the Spanish frigates in this. The amount of property thus seized is unknown, the application of it, except in a few instances, is unknown; but sufficient evidence was before the public, that the Duke of York, and the younger princes, had received grants of money to a very considerable amount out of this fund. The question evidently became a very serious one. For it may turn out hereafter, that a king will commit hostilities for the sake only of his private funds, whilst the nation must be at the expence of the future battles. The subject excited the attention of the representative of Westminster, of him, who was sent into parliament by the citizens, without any expence to himself, and who may, therefore, strictly and properly be called, the man of the people. He moved for papers, relative to the amount of this property and its application, which led to a slight discussion on the rights of the admiralty, and the rights of the crown. His request was only in part granted, and papers relative to the amount of the property were allowed to be brought into the house. It remains to be seen, what will be the end of the enquiry. There cannot be a doubt, that Sir Francis Burdett will do every thing, that a free and independent member of the House can do upon such an occasion; and we trust it will end in proper measures being taken, that in future the interest of the king and his people shall not be disunited.

The question before the House, introduced by Sir Francis Burdett, is of very great importance to the nation, as involving the separate interests of king and people, and the means of keeping them in future closely united: another question is likely to be soon brought forward, in which the important question of imprisoning a subject, and lettres de cachet, is likely to be again discussed. Our readers will recollect the obloquy thrown on Sir Francis Burdett for his manly attempt to prevent houses of correction being made the instruments of similar tyranny to the ancient bastilles of France. His efforts did him the highest honour; and he acted as an independent member of the House of Commons, and as an honest Englishman, knowing the privileges of an Englishman, derived from Magna Charta, the Habeas Corpus act, and the Bill of Rights. We mention these three standards of English liberty, because no opportunity should be lost of teaching Englishmen what their ancestors have done for them, and what base degenerate wretches those are who suffer these monuments of their fathers' zeal for honour and liberty to be impaired. In vain may Frenchmen invent delusive theories. The Englishman has something practical to refer to; but, if he permits or connives at the breach of his standard laws, and from little factious views rejoices, when his fellow subject, of whatever station he may be, is exposed to the caprices of power, he becomes unworthy of the station, in which he has been placed by Providence.

From the efforts of Sir Francis Burdett, an enquiry was instituted into the conduct of the house of correction in Cold Bath Fields; and from the committee appointed for this purpose, the worthy baronet was carefully excluded. Abuses were declared by this committee to exist in this prison; but rumours have reached the public since that time, that they were not

rectified. Visits have been made by the grand jury, and lately it seems, that a grand jury, on visiting the prison, found considerable cause of complaint; so much so, that they have presented a petition to the House of Commons on the subject. This petition was brought in by Mr. Sheridan, and after some objection in point of form, it was withdrawn, and was brought in the next day, and ordered to lie on the table. The merits of the petition will be hereafter examined. It complains among other things, that persons were sent to solitary confinement in this prison, against whom no crime had been substantiated; and this, we apprehend, without mentioning the other matters, some of which are very atrocious, is of sufficient importance to claim the utmost attention of the legislature. The petition is accompanied by a letter from Sheriff Phillips to the magistrates on the subject of this prison; and we may congratulate the public on the whole matter, being now likely to be discussed without that party agitation, in which the former enquiry was involved; and with a regard to the liberty of the subject, to which the haughty and overbearing spirit of the late unfortunate Mr. Pitt was so great a stranger.

The result of the orders of council, relative to commerce, is not yet clearly perceived. Some few attempts to petition for peace have been made; but the general opinion is, that this is not the time, and that we must stay to see what turn the war will take, and what prospect there is of ministers entering into a negociation. The petitions of the Irish for the emancipation of the Catholics are increasing in number, and with them the liberal spirit of the protestants is rising. It is high time for both parties to get rid of those stupid prejudices, by which hypocrisy and priestcraft endeavour to keep them alienated from each other. It is too much, however, to expect that their petitions will be granted during this session.

The trial of General Whitelocke would have excited much of the public attention, if the new regulations introduced into this country had not confined the detail of it to the knowledge of a very few auditors. The process is extremely slow. Very few witnesses have been examined, and it is not at all unlikely that another month will elapse, before the subject is brought to a final decision. Much may undoubtedly be said on both sides, on the propriety of not printing the evidence till the whole has been gone through; as in many cases it may be proper to keep the witnesses apart: but in a trial of this nature, it is impossible that any evidence should be given which will not be known to the other witnesses, and of course we see no impropriety in laying the daily transactions before the public, which is not obviated by the superior advantages attending publicity. The great point, however, would be to shorten the proceedings, and this might be done without inconvenience to either the court or the parties at issue.

But it is now time to look to the state of affairs on the continent; and the attention is drawn to two kingdoms, one fallen, the other falling. The King of Sweden is known more by the vigour of his writings than that of his troops. His manifestos proclaimed him to be the champion of sovereigns, and his conduct lost him the affection of his subjects in Pomerania. Deprived of his German dominions, he made his escape from Stralsund; and found on his return to Sweden, that with his people the fate of the people was of as great importance, as in the royal breast the fate of sovereigns. It is in vain to dissemble this matter. Men, according to their stations in life, will form different prejudices: but they are very much misguided, if they make their own prejudices the standard of other mens' opinions. The King of Sweden rushed into his Quixotic war, but did not sufficiently reflect on the tendency of that war to create discussions at home, which it must be the interest of a despotic sovereign to keep as much as possible out of sight. Louis the sixteenth fell into a similar error. With a view to injure Great Britain he sent his soldiers to range with those who fought for liberty and independence. It was natural, that the French soldiers should bring home with them sentiments, to which their breasts had hitherto been strangers. The King of Sweden did not range his soldiers in the same manner; but the very colli-

sion brought to their minds what Sweden once was, and what cause they were now opposing.

The loss of Pomerania has naturally made the subjects of Sweden look a little more attentively into their own government; and however we may applaud the valour, firmness, and heroism of the king, they will enquire to what purpose this valour, firmness, and heroism tend; and in what manner and to what degree they are interested in their king's quarrel. To sharpen their wits upon this subject, the Russians are hanging over them on the south-east, and by the latest accounts have actually declared war. A very considerable force is in Russian Finland; and news is daily expected, that the Russians have entered Swedish Finland, and it is not at all improbable that they will have overrun that wild and inhospitable country before sufficient troops can arrive to resist them. It is, we fear, too true also, that Denmark has raised a considerable force in Norway; and it is expected, that as soon as the news arrived at Copenhagen that the Russians had entered Swedish Finland, war will be declared by the Danes against Sweden, and a diversion will be made from Norway to co-operate with one from the north of Denmark. The valorous King of Sweden was at Stockholm when the account of the Russian war reached Stockholm: he will now learn his real state in his kingdom. One thing is in his favour: the Swedes are a brave people; and whatever cause of disgust they may have at late proceedings, it is possible that they will rise with energy to maintain their independence. The conflict is, however, a doubtful one; and we cannot but be apprehensive that it will end in the sovereign's becoming either more under the restraint of his subjects at home, or placed in a very humiliating situation, with respect to his adjacent neighbours.

The fallen kingdom of Portugal has not been disposed of. Rumours of insurrections turned out either to be not true, or not true to any great extent. The French have as complete possession of Portugal as we have of Madeira. As yet, it does not appear that they have made any alterations in the internal government of the country; but our intelligence is too little to be depended upon, to ascertain the real state of the country. The Queen of Etruria, it is still said, is to be a sovereign in Portugal, and part is to be given up to Spain; but the whole is conjecture, and awaits the decision of the mighty monarch, in whose actual possession the country now is. In the mean time, orders against the English and their property are executed with the utmost rigour.

Of Spain, we know little. We cannot doubt, that the French influence predominates, and that the troops of France can execute any purpose. Before the summer the fate of that kingdom will be determined. The Dutch, under their sovereign Louis, are lamenting the extinction of commerce, as they enter heartily into the new decrees: and the Danes are preparing vigorously to exercise their hatred against England, not alarmed by the loss of their West India islands, of which we have taken possession. Russia seems to be more and more determined to shew the English how much she resents their languor in the former contest, and how much determined she is to assist in rescuing the continent from what is called our maritime tyranny. Her attack on Sweden is evidently from the reluctance of that country to enter into the general confederacy; and it is melancholy to reflect, that the only country which remains in alliance with us is so situated that we cannot send any troops to its assistance, till the enemy has rendered every exertion on our part unavailing. Besides, there is too great reason to believe, that Russia is engaged with Persia and France in some meditated attack upon our East Indian territories. Such is the result of our mad and injudicious interference with the French revolution.

In the midst of all the tumults and alarms, France sits perfectly quiet and easy, fearless of any attack, indifferent to the moves of Great Britain, and raising conscripts to take possession of new territories, and to bring back an increase of wealth into their own country. No relaxation has appeared in the regulations against commerce: but preparations are said to be making in all the ports to rear ships for ano-

ther attempt at the mastery of the sea. A squadron has escaped from one of their ports in spite of our blockade; the cause of our neglect remains to be discovered. To what part of the world they are bound it is not known; but it cannot be doubted, that some of our numerous squadrons will give a good account of them. The sovereign of France is in his capital, making regulations for all his dominions and dependencies, and we should not be surprised if his squadron is to annex Florida to his imperial crown.

America has taken active measures, and such as it is perfectly justified in doing. What the arrival of our accredited agent, Mr. Rose, may affect has not yet transpired. As the French and English seem to be united in their endeavours to cut up commerce by the roots, all that the Americans can do is to put an end entirely to all commerce with Europe, and thus free themselves from the vexations which must attend the arrival of their ships in Europe. Enough of the world is open to their exertions, in spite of the bickerings of Europeans: but it is not likely that the country will persist in any firm measures. They seem not to dread a war with us, from their supposed power to harrass us more in Canada and Nova Scotia, than we can possibly do them by our maritime code; and in this they seem to be justified by every view of the subject. If Bonaparte should take possession of Florida, the United States will have two very disagreeable neighbours; but it cannot last for any great length of time, as the increasing population of America will soon defy all that Europe can bring against it. Of the middle of America and the Brazils we know little. The French laugh, and with great reason, at our congratulations on the escape of the Prince of Portugal to the Brazils: we may expect in a very short time to know in what manner he has been received. What Liniers will do with the south of the Plata we are yet to learn. It is said that we have not given up the idea of an expedition to that quarter; and if we were to seize again on Monte Video, and be content with allowing independence to the south of La Plata, we might make that country still very advantageous to Britain. Jamaica is by no means set at rest on the slave trade question.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Ponsonby introduced his promised motion for papers relative to the Copenhagen business, on the 3d of February, stating, that his object was to ascertain how far the ministers were justifiable in advising the attack on Copenhagen; an attack which he conceived to be repugnant to the honour and integrity of the king, the moral character of the people, and the true dignity of the crown. This subject required a view of the three distinct relations of Denmark, Russia, and France. Of Denmark, as involving its disposition towards this country for some time previous to the attack. Of Russia, to discover whether she was so completely abandoned to French councils, as to confederate with them in forcing the Danish fleet to act against us. Of France, to ascertain what means she had to compel Denmark to depart from her system of neutrality. As the king's speech mentioned a recollection of the hostile confederacy, in which Denmark was engaged against this country at the close of the late war, he should move for various papers relative to that subject. He should require also papers, if any there were in office, relative to the state of Denmark and its preparations for war. But he anticipated, that there were none; as Denmark had at that time two millions of money invested in cargoes in our ports, and there was not the slighest appearance of a wish to act against us. As to the means of France to compel the Danes, that must require an examination of the power of the two countries, of the want of maritime force in the French, and of the physical strength of the Danes, from the position of their capital in an island in the Baltic. As to Russia, he observed, that on the arrival of the news from Tilsit, nothing was talked of but immediate hostilities on the part of Russia: yet its fleets were permitted to range at liberty, whilst those of neutral Denmark were to be attacked and seized. Hence was evidence, that the pretended secret articles were not the primary cause of the armament against Denmark. Here he took a view of the conferences between our minister at

Petersburgh and the Russian cabinet, and specified the papers he should want to make this subject clear; concluding, that upon the whole, the measure was every way censurable, as to the attack itself, or the manner in which it had been followed up. It is a monstrous doctrine, that statesmen are discharged from the changeless and eternal laws of morality, which Providence has prescribed for the rule of nations. History in glowing colours shews the folly of such maxims. We departed from these rules, and lost America: France interfered, and its royal family was annihilated: Poland was partitioned out, but Prussia has lost its share of the spoils, and Austria and Russia have been humbled. This country, for the first time, has entered into a similar species of plunder with the last. It is therefore a great national question; and all sides of the House must be desirous of that complete information by which its merits may be ascertained.

Mr. Canning began with a sneer on the late ministers for their achievements whilst in office. He then denied that Denmark was to be considered as a power friendly to us: and he asserted, that that country had shewn no jealousy of France, but much of England. He asserted from our minister's account, that all the departments of the Danish government were filled with persons attached to the French interest. The seizure of the Danish fleet he allowed to be a harsh measure, but not so harsh as the attack on the Turkish fleet. It was incredible, he said, that Denmark could defend itself against France: and, if we had adopted milder measures, we must have been at war with that country. He then vindicated the policy of not attacking Russia, as long as there was a hope of bringing back the emperor to our interest. That court had been in a great degree alienated from us by the neglect of assistance in the war: but it is certain, that this alienation was not increased by the news from Denmark. Mr. Canning allowed, that the general principles of morality ought to be revered, but he contended against a very rigid application of them in the present state of Europe: and he brought, as proofs, the actions of the late ministry in sending a fleet into the Tagus, and the expedition against Madeira.

Whatever might be the result of the debate, he felt confident, he said, that the country approved of the conduct of ministers, as it added a fleet to the force of this country, and deducted as much from Bonaparte. His projects against commerce he would find to be vain and idle, and the measures taken by his Majesty's ministers, would shew him that they were alive to all his attempts, and would at any rate take care that he should not, through their negligence or misconduct, obtain a fleet to invade this country. Mr. Windham termed the foregoing speech, mere insanity and stage declamation. The ruin of Copenhagen, he said, would serve as an eternal monument of injustice, and an eternal provocation to the resentment of the Danes. When the present ministers were no longer heard of, cared for, or thought of, this abandoned expedition would entail dishonour and calamity upon Great Britain. But the worst effect of this ill-fated expedition was the influence it had upon our own moral character, the loss of those principles for which this nation was famed. For the sake of the country and for his own sake individually, he completely disavowed any part in this Danish, or in the Spanish war. From Denmark we had obtained ships, and from Spain dollars; but he really wished, that the country would disclaim all share in the profit of both. Mr. Milnes accused the opposition, of preferring the interest of every country to their own, and of giving full credit to Bonaparte, when they omitted no opportunity of calling in question the veracity of their own sovereign, and his ministers. Some other personal allusions occasioned this gentleman to be called to order, and nothing indeed that he said was worth recording. Mr. Bathurst contended, that the house would be lost to a sense of its duty, if it did not make the enquiry. The language of ministers was, that they had achieved a splendid action, and therefore that every thing was right; but it struck him as somewhat singular, that while they withheld all information respecting the late expedition, they had not the

smallest scruple in disclosing all the secrets of government for the last seven years. Mr. Foster thought, that the expedition against Copenhagen was not to be tried upon the narrow grounds of secret information, but upon the broad footing of general policy; and it ill became those to carp at a measure, which was rendered absolutely necessary to repair the mischief resulting from their misconduct. Lord Palmerstone vindicated the whole very concisely in a few words. Denmark had a fleet and was weak, France was our enemy and was powerful. Mr. Morris took nearly the same ground as the last speaker. Mr. Whitbread endeavoured to call the house to the real subject before them, which was not, whether the ministers had done right or wrong, but whether the house was to have that information which would enable it to judge of their conduct. If the action was wrong, there could be no justification; if right, let ministers come fairly to their trial. Ministers had taken various grounds, first asserting one thing then another, just as it suited a temporary purpose. They had said, that it was after the treaty of Tilsit, that they discovered the intention of forming a hostile confederacy against this country; then they said, that it was long before this treaty they had the information. Many other speakers gave their opinion, but without any novelty, and with little or no interest; and the house divided, when there were against the motion 253, for it 108.

In the House of Lords the Copenhagen business was brought forward, on the 8th of February, their lordships having been summoned for this purpose by the Duke of Norfolk. His grace opened the debate by observing, that it was not his intention to call for any papers, which it would be dangerous or inconvenient to grant; but even ministers must wish to stand acquitted in the eyes of Europe, from the imputation of a violent and unprovoked attack on a neutral, or friendly, and a defenceless power. It had been stated, that the attack was grounded on actual information, that Denmark was to be dragged into hostilities against us, and that ministers had documents to prove it. It was, therefore, the business of the house to call for such documents, and to pass judgment on a full view of the case. Violence of an extraordinary kind had been used, and great scandal both to the governors and the nation had been incurred, from which nothing but imperious necessity could acquit them. He should move, therefore, for such papers, as would put the whole matter in a proper light, and those his grace enumerated. Lord Wellesley opposed the motion, which he considered to be superfluous, and this he thought would be evident on taking the subject in three different points of view. 1st. The evident design of the French Emperor to draw the court of Denmark into his plan of universal marine confederacy against England. 2d. The means he had to accomplish this object. 3d. The danger attending the accomplishment of this object, and the necessity of taking the strongest measures to secure our safety. On these points his lordship dilated at great length, and from a full view of each, determined the Copenhagen business to be justifiable and absolutely necessary.

Lord Hutchinson, who had been with the Russian armies in the last campaign, and was frequently closeted with the Russian Emperor, could find no justification in the last speech of the expedition against Copenhagen. It had completely failed in proving, that Zealand could not effectually have been defended, even if the French had seized Holstein and Jutland. He was of opinion, that the defence of Zealand was perfectly practicable against the whole French army. He had been engaged in an important mission, on which it was necessary for him to speak, as partial extracts had been communicated from his dispatches, and he was held out as giving opinions which he had never advanced. He could speak to certain facts. The Russian army in Poland never amounted to more than seventy thousand men, with the exception of two detached divisions, amounting to thirty thousand. The French troops were estimated at a hundred and four and five thousand. The loss of the Russians, after the battle of Friedland, amounted to forty thousand men, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight officers, and twenty-nine generals. He was then convinced,

that Russia was under the necessity of making peace; and he observed, that the Emperor of Russia was sincere in his desire to mediate between this country and France; and at all events, that the relations of peace and amity might have been preserved between this country and Russia. The treaty of Tilsit was signed on the 7th of July. On the 23d of August, (his lordship said), he had a conference with the Emperor of Russia, to whom he confirmed an opinion advanced by him, of the necessity of peace, and declared himself bound publicly to avow it, which he should do as long as he lived. His lordship then stated, that the Emperor declared his sincere and anxious wish, that England should make peace, as it was his interest, and that of Europe and England, that tranquillity should be restored to the world. His lordship replied, that sufficient time had not been given for the offer of mediation, and that no one in England would accept of peace, but on conditions reasonable and honourable. His Majesty replied, that time was no object, as we might take three or four months to accept or reject his mediation; but his anxious desire was for peace, the terms for which he had no doubt, were such as his lordship would esteem to be highly reasonable and honourable.

It has been asserted, continued his lordship, that I have advanced, that Russia would not have gone to war with us but for the attack on Copenhagen. Such an opinion I never gave, but this I say, that the result of that expedition did materially change the relations between Great Britain and Russia, and give rise to sentiments of a very hostile nature at the Court of Petersburgh. Here his lordship detailed another conversation with the Russian Emperor on the 4th of September, when the Emperor declared, that the language of the Prince of Denmark had always been explicit and uniform; that he had maintained for many years a system of neutrality, in which he was determined to persevere, and that no consideration should ever induce him to depart from it. His Imperial Majesty added, that he was sure no connection existed between the French and Danish governments, previous to our attack on Copenhagen. He stated the great concern, which this unjustifiable aggression had given him; the French government had never done any thing so strong; and it justified every thing they had done, or might do hereafter. Such proceedings put an end to all the relations, by which nations conducted themselves towards each other; and in the most peremptory language, tone, and manner, His Majesty said, that he would have satisfaction, complete satisfaction for this unprovoked aggression.

These conversations his lordship said, completely justified him in what he said of the effect of the expedition against Copenhagen in Russia; and however lightly the opinion of Europe had been treated, so far from this expedition being approved, he could take upon himself to say, from personal observation, that it was universally reprobated in the north of Europe. Lord Erskine reprobated the Copenhagen business in the strongest terms, asserting, that we who pretended to enter upon the war with France as conservators of political morality, were in the end its most flagrant violaters. We had not necessity to plead in its defence. As well might a man in Coventry-street pull down a house in the Haymarket, because the turnpike-gate at Hydepark corner was on fire, or because somebody told him it was on fire, or because he was told that a chimney-sweeper intended to set it on fire. The fleet we had stolen he had rather that we had met on the ocean filled with Frenchmen, than to be covered with the disgrace which now attaches to the nation; for the ministers had not produced, and could not produce, any reasons to justify the atrocity of their conduct. Lord Boringdon justified the action, which was so proper in his opinion, that if ministers had not taken the measure they did, they ought to have been arraigned as criminals at the bar of the House.

The Earl of Buckinghamshire did not think that the necessity of the attack had been shewn, or its policy proved. Lord Harrowby thought the intentions of the French so evident, and the weakness of the Danes so palpable, that no argument was necessary

to justify ministers. When one belligerent power broke through the law of nations, and a neutral power conformed to that breach, it must take the consequences which may arise from the other belligerent power acting in the same manner. Lord Moira could scarcely persuade himself that he was in a British house of parliament, when he heard such sentiments advanced, and an action casting an indelible stain on our character was considered as a matter of mere speculative convention. There was no collusion on the part of Denmark, which had been strictly neutral, and the conjecture that it might be beaten by the French was not an argument for our turning to be its enemy. Besides, these things are not to be judged by names; the bravery of the Danes might have effected a sufficient resistance till our fleets came to the succour of their capital. But we have now lost all our moral advantages, and there is no longer a rallying point for the oppressed. The government had lost all credit for fortitude and magnanimity if sixteen sail of the line could put it into so great fear for its existence. His lordship declared, that this action had brought us nearer to ruin than any thing which any administration could do, either by improvidence or temerity, for it had alienated from us the hearts of all Europe. The silence of the nation, he said, did not arise from apathy. They looked to parliament for justification; and if the matter was slurred over, it would give rise to serious and general discontent. Lord Limerick supported, and Lord Jersey opposed the measure.

Lord Hawkesbury contended, that the whole might be referred to a first principle, equally belonging to nations and individuals, that of self preservation; to which no limits can be assigned but those of necessity. The question of necessity depended on three points: 1st, Whether the enemy had a design of seizing the Danish fleet; 2d, Whether they had the means to do it; and 3d, Whether, supposing the two first points to be allowed, the object was of sufficient magnitude to induce this nation to deviate from the ordinary rules of procedure. From a view of these points the nation was justified, and the measure was carried into execution in the mildest possible manner.

Lord St. Vincent gave it as his opinion, that it was much easier to invade England from Boulogne, than Zealand from Holstein.—Lord Grey thought the honour of the nation had received a mortal stab, and did not allow that Lord Hawkesbury, in any point, had justified the conduct of ministers. If the ships were restored and manned by the worst of our enemies, grant but to Ireland her civil and religious liberties, and we shall be able to cope with them and ten times that force.—Lord Mulgrave justified, and Lord Darnley reprobated the expedition.—Lord Sidmouth made a solemn appeal to the house to pause and deliberate seriously, before they decided upon a question so deeply involving the national honour; and he impressed upon the minds of noble lords that the country had hitherto been silent, merely in the confidence of receiving the fullest and most satisfactory information. The house then divided, there being for the motion, 48; against it, 105, the ministers carrying their question by a majority of 57. If the nation were polled upon this question their majority would probably not be so decisive: but at present the nation stands committed, and we are of opinion, with Lord Hutchinson, that all Europe reprobates our conduct.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"T. C——y" requests us to vindicate Mr. Thelwall's *pronunciation* from some attacks in the *Beau Monde*: This we cannot do, because we never heard Mr. Thelwall; but if "T. C——y" can defend that gentleman upon tenable grounds, we will willingly insert a letter from him. We thank him, at the same time, for the opinion he expresses of our Magazine.

Mr. Brewer's "Vindication of the Modern Drama," shall appear next month.

"J. S. H." from Leicester, has sent us some lines *To the Moon*, written by an uneducated female cottager in the neighbourhood of Leicester. Merely as the production

of such a person, they are respectable; and from a wish to gratify so laudable an exercise of her mind, we will insert them next month. We shall be glad also to receive communications for our provincial department from J. S. H.

We do not think the suggestion of "Saccharum" likely to produce that advantage which he expects.

We are sorry that Mr. Fletcher's "Sonnet" arrived too late for insertion this month. Any communications intended for insertion in the current number, should be sent early in the month.

The remaining favours of "Horatio," now in our hands, we are compelled to decline.

APOLLONIAN CRITIC.

"SEMPER FIDELIS."

The Overture and Music in the Blind Boy, a grand Melo-Drama, as performed with universal approbation at the Theatre Royal Covent-Garden; composed, &c. &c. by John Davy. Price 6s.

MR. DAVY has, in many instances, proved himself to be a composer of real taste and science; and, as such, stands high in the public estimation; and we will venture to say, he well deserves that meed of public fame which his labours have earned, and with which they have been remunerated. The present piece was not calculated to draw forth such exquisitely beautiful passages as we find in his *Just like Love*, and some other of his compositions; yet he will at least be entitled to the negative fame of having done but little that merits censure. Music of this kind, when divested of the attendant action, or stage effect, cannot but lose some part of its energy. The airs, &c. exclusive of the overture, are twenty-six in number, including one song, performed by Mr. Liston. The harp solo in the overture displays much taste, and is a very pleasing air. The organ piece (No. 17) is well harmonized, and, with the exception of the 6th bar, displays much taste and science. We think the movement in the bar we have mentioned, which is repeated in the last bar except two, might be altered to advantage.—Several of the airs are well adapted for the piano forte, and will please. One or two of the marches are good; but of the song we cannot say much to its advantage. On the whole, we may perhaps say with propriety, that the music is quite as good as we generally find in pieces of this description. Z.

Marianna; a favourite Air, with Variations for a German Flute and Piano Forte. Composed by A. Howship. Price 3s.

WE know but little of Mr. Howship as a composer; but as a performer on the German flute, we have heard and admired his execution. If this is his first attempt as an author, it does him great credit. The theme upon which his variations are founded is highly pleasing, and the variations upon the air are arranged with neatness and spirit. The flute part is obligato, but the subject is also taken up at intervals by the piano forte. The whole is executed with taste and ability, and will be acceptable to the performers on both instruments. Z.

Ben Reef, a favourite Nautical Song. Written by Mr. T. Conway, composed by John Birch. Price 1s.

WE have no hesitation in pronouncing this a very excellent, as well as patriotic, little ballad. The music is bold, and well adapted to the subject. We have seen few better melodies of this kind. Z.

The Girl that I love is a Mortal like me. A favourite Song, composed by F. Gough; the Words by a Gentleman. Price 1s.

THIS Song is written in a style rather above mediocrity; and Mr. G. has given it a neat and appropriate air. Z.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

COLD BATH FIELDS PRISON.—We have been much gratified by the manner in which Mr. Sheridan has taken up the abuses of this jail. The exertions of Sir Francis Burdett, in this respect, in 1800, not only did him immortal credit, but remedied some few, but very few, of the evils. The Report of the Commissioners appointed by his Majesty for this purpose, although by no means disposed to exaggerate the grievances complained of, contained such a statement as would have justified, and ought to have induced ministers to take such measures as would have laid this question for ever at rest. But, though some flimsy attempts at reform were at first held out, nothing effectual was done. Aris was not removed, which, if the administration had been disposed to pay the slighest regard to the Report of their own Commissioners, for this commission (not being a parliamentary commission, but under the Privy Seal, the commissioners were of course nominated by his Majesty's ministers) was a direct reprobation of every suggestion of the commissioners. This establishment has always been considered as *unconstitutional*, and can only remind us of the famous *dungeons* of *Lydford*, where, according to *Lydford Law*, the unhappy, and often imaginary criminals, were first *hanged*, and *tried* afterwards! The demolition of this theatre of petty tyranny, and the punishment of the minions of oppression, would gladden the heart of every Englishman; instead of being a place for the *improvement* of the *morals* of petty offenders, it rather appears, from the petition here alluded to, to have become a sink of *debauchery!*

To the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Honourable House of Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in the United Parliament assembled:

The Petition of ALEXANDER STEPHENS, of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple and Park House, in the county of Middlesex, Esquire,

Humbly sheweth,

That certain persons lately serving the office of Grand Jurymen for the county of Middlesex, to the number of about nine, having visited the House of Correction for the said county, commonly called the Cold Bath Fields Prison, on Tuesday, November the 3d, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, between the hours of eleven and twelve in the forenoon:

They there discovered, that all the loaves found by them (each of which ought to contain sixteen ounces, and to be distributed daily, at ten o'clock in the morning) were greatly deficient in point of quantity, as will be seen from the annexed statement on the part of one of the magistrates of the city of London.

That the prison-weight demanded and used upon the present occasion, for trying the loaves in rotation, proved also deficient, as was fully demonstrated in both instances on the same day, when compared with the standard at Guildhall, in the presence, first, of Sir William Leighton, Knt. then Lord Mayor; and afterwards of Richard Phillips, Esq. then and still one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, as well as of four of the late Grand Jury: and moreover, that the scales of the said prison were false and fraudulent.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Sheriff Phillips to William Mainwaring, Esq. chairman of the Quarter Sessions, &c.

"SIR—I consider it a duty which I owe the public to inform you, as chairman of the Quarter Sessions, and, I believe, one of the committee for conducting the business of the prison, that I was present when an appeal was lately made by the Grand Jury of the county to the standard weights in Guildhall; that I witnessed the examination of the pound-weight for weighing meat and other provisions in the House of Correction, Cold Bath Fields, when it was found to be seven-eighths of an ounce too light; and that on weighing some loaves which were found in the same prison, by the Grand Jury, they appeared also to be considerably too light, one or two of them being from an ounce

and a half to two ounces under weight. I should compromise the feelings which I bear towards the respectable magistracy of the county of Middlesex, if I were to omit to make this formal communication.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"R. PHILLIPS, Sheriff."

"Bridge-street, Nov. 13, 1807.

"To W. Mainwaring, Esq."

Your petitioner, together with other members of the Grand Jury, also discovered:

That several of the liege subjects of this realm were committed to close custody, in cells destitute of fire, eight feet three inches long, by six feet three inches wide, two of them in irons, although sick; some, if not all, of these were innocent in point of fact, as all were then innocent in point of law, being detained under the pretext of re-examination, and consequently uncondemned by the legal judgment of their peers, or even the accusatory verdict of a Grand Jury. Of this number were a mother, a daughter, and a son, of creditable appearance; the two former in one cell, so situated as to be exposed to a continual current of external air, without the possibility of obtaining, even during the severest frost, an artificial warmth by means of fuel, while the convicts below enjoyed all the comforts of an open roomy ward, with occasional access to fire.

That in one of these lonely cells was closely confined a foreigner of some rank, the Chevalier de Blin, who, as we were told, by one of the jailers, while so immured, had been deprived of his reason, and who presented to your petitioner a memorial on his knees; who, after conversing with him in French some time through the key-hole, demanded to enter.

That in this place, originally destined for the improvement of the morals of petty offenders, a female prisoner, as we have learned, has been lately debauched by the son of the chief jailer, or governor, who then held an office of trust in the prison, and has since had a child, now, or at least lately, burdensome to the parish of Kensington, in the county of Middlesex.

That four debtors were shut up in this House of Correction, the only communication between whom and the world appears to take place occasionally, by means of two iron-grates, at upwards of six feet distance from each other, with a jailer walking in at intervals, so as to preclude complaint; and that from the examination of a debtor, and also, by a letter from him, both in the possession of your petitioner, it appears that he was shut up with persons guilty of robbery and unnatural crimes.

And lastly, that six innocent persons, the bills against whom had been thrown out by the Grand Jury, were dragged from Cold Bath Fields Prison to Hick's-hall, in open day, at the close of the session, first manacled, and then fastened together by a rope, to be discharged by proclamation.

I, your petitioner, therefore, conceiving that such gross instances of fraud, coupled with such an open violation of the laws, and even of the express orders of session, are calculated to bring his Majesty's government into contempt, and cast an unmerited odium on our most excellent constitution; thinking also, that if such malpractices were detected in a casual and slight survey, of less than two hours duration, far greater abuses are likely to be brought to light, by the intervention of the Grand Inquest of the Nation, I most humbly and earnestly solicit this Honourable House to take the premises into consideration, and by a public and open examination at its bar, or any other mode, afford such relief as may seem meet.

A. STEPHENS.

FIRE.—Few events of a private nature have aroused so extensive a sympathy, and so cordial a regret, as the calamity which has befallen Mr. Deputy Nichols, of Red Lion Passage, Fleet-street, a gentleman universally beloved and respected. The whole of his very extensive printing concern has been consumed, and most valuable works in preparation for the public are entirely lost. We more particularly regret the destruction of Mr. N.'s "History of Leicestershire," the accumulated labour of many years; and also of a new and greatly enlarged edition of his "Life of Mr. Bowyer," which was in a state of great forwardness, under the more appropriate title of "The Literary History of the

Eighteenth Century," or something to that effect. All the stock of the Gentleman's Magazine, from 1783 to the present month, has been consumed, with many important works of gentlemen by whom Mr. Nichols was employed. It is a peculiarly unfortunate circumstance, that what is called a trade sale was intended by Mr. Nichols to have taken place some days ago, and which would probably have cleared away about 6000l. worth of books that are now burned to ashes; but, by some accident, the sale was postponed. We hear that Mr. N. is insured for 12,000l. but it is much to be feared that 20,000l. will not exceed the amount of his loss.—May the Almighty Power, that "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," sustain him in his declining years, under so weighty an affliction, and prove a friend to him, who has been all his life most truly the friend of humankind!

FREE THINKING CHRISTIANS.—Six individuals, professing to be the Principals of a new Sectary, established at a house in Cateaton-street, calling themselves "Free-thinking Christians," applied late on Saturday evening, Feb. 20, to the Recorder, while in the progress of his official duties, at the Old Bailey, to be sworn in as licenced Teachers under the Act called the Conventicle Act. It appeared that the place stated has recently been converted into a place of worship, and a licence obtained from the Bishop to use it as a dissenting meeting. The Recorder objected to swearing them in, and said he had seen a paper that required consideration before the oaths were administered. The first question to be propounded, he observed, was, "whether the doctrine of the Holy Trinity was supported by the evidence of Holy Writ?" and the questions that followed were evidently intended to bring into discussion the fundamental principles of the established religion of the country. He therefore thought the propriety of swearing them should be investigated previously to their taking the oaths.

The Spokesman said, that his Lordship sat there to administer justice, and not to judge of the propriety of religious tenets. They venerated the laws of their country, and if they were found offending, it was then he had the power of interfering; at present he could not chuse but administer the oath.

The Recorder replied, that he would not have the justice of the country impeded, and they must come another time.

The Spokesman said it was injustice to put them off. But if they could not be sworn then, he wished to know when they were to come.

The Recorder, after some further observations upon their pertinacity, ordered them to come again on Monday.

On Monday they again presented themselves in Court, and demanded to be sworn in, when the Recorder, after consulting the Judges, told them that two of them, who were resident in the City of London, might be sworn, but the rest must depart, as the Court were not empowered to administer the oaths to them.

The Spokesman, who was one of the excluded, demanded to know why the Court were not empowered, when the Recorder told him, the Court did not sit there to expound impertinent questions, and Mr. Justice Le Blanc desiring them to quit the Court, they withdrew, and only two out of six were sworn.

Deaths in and near London.

At his house in Buckingham Place, New Road, Mary-la-Bonne, aged 42, Mr. Robert Freebairn, an eminent landscape painter. He was the youngest and the last pupil of the celebrated Wibrow, soon after whose death Mr. F. went to Italy, to pursue his studies, where he remained ten years. In his painting, his intention seemed to produce beauty, and, when his subjects admitted it, as much grandeur as was consistent with the primary quality. Hence his pictures rather usually excite pleasing than stronger sensations. During his stay in Italy, he enjoyed the patronage of Lord Clive, now Earl Powis; which was continued after his return to England, and strengthened with that of Lord Suffolk, Mr. Penn, of Stoke Park, &c. As his style of painting was *finished*, his productions were not numerous: he was principally employed in painting pictures ordered by his patrons. Hence those that remain unsold are

but few; and as these are in possession of his family, it is presumed they will soon be taken into the collections of the admirers of elegant art, and thus form a provision for his widow and four children, to whom his premature death will prove an irreparable loss.

In Portland Place, the Hon. Margaret Stuart Wortley Mackenzie.—This lady, once so celebrated for her beauty, was descended from the ancient and noble house of Glencairn, being the only surviving daughter of Lieut. Gen. Sir David Cunningham, and grand-daughter of George, Earl of Aberdeen. Early in life she was married to the Hon. James Stuart Wortley, son of the celebrated John Earl of Bute, and brother to the present Marquis, by whom she has left issue, one son and two daughters.

Aged 77, Mr. William Flexney, formerly a bookseller in Holborn, and first publisher of Churchill's Poems. Mr. F. had retired from business for a number of years past. Churchill alludes to his bookseller in the following lines in his "Journey:"

> "Let those who energy of diction prize,
> For Billingsgate, quit Flexney, and be wise."

At his house in Arlington-street, Henry Gage, Viscount Gage of Castle-Island, Baron of Castlebar, in Ireland, and Baron Gage of High Meadow, in England, and a Major General in the Army. His Lordship was in his 47th year. He is succeeded in his titles and estates by his only son, Henry Hall, now in his 17th year. The Viscountess, who survives him, was daughter to the late Col. Skinner, and grand daughter to the late Sir Peter Warren, K.B.

The Marquis of Thomond.—His Lordship had left his house in Great George-street, Westminster, in the forenoon, on horse-back, intending to take a ride in Hyde Park. In passing through Grosvenor-square, his horse reared up and fell backwards on his Lordship, who bled profusely, and lay on the ground totally helpless. The noble Marquis was carried into the house of Lord Sydney, where medical assistance was procured, and every attention paid to him, but in vain, for he expired almost immediately. The noble Marquis was Earl and Baron of Inchiquin, and Baron of Buren in Ireland. Sept. 15, 1801, he was created an English Peer, by the title of Baron Thomond, of Taplow, in Buckinghamshire. He was also a Knight of St. Patrick. He was in his 85th year. Having died without issue, the Hon. Edward O'Brien, his Lordship's brother, succeeds to the Irish Earldom; the Marquisate and the English Barony are extinct. The remains were removed from Lord Sydney's at about eleven o'clock at night, to the family house of the deceased. His Lordship had enjoyed a most enviable share of health; rode out very frequently, and always wore his hair queued in the oldest fashion. The funeral was private.

Colonel Fullarton, of Fullarton.—Of this gentleman, memorable for his transactions with respect to Colonel Picton, it is not here the place to speak either as to his character as a soldier, a scholar, or a man. It is, however, well known to every person who had the happiness of his acquaintance, that he possessed every useful and polite accomplishment: he was deeply read in most of the ancient and modern languages, some of which he spoke with great fluency. In a word, he possessed every feeling that does honour to the human heart. His remains were interred in the parish church of Isleworth: they were followed by six mourning coaches and four, in which were many of his noble relatives and friends. The family coach, and a long train of carriages and servants belonging to absent relatives, closed the procession.

Feb. 21, about seven o'clock in the evening, Lord Lake. At five in the morning, alarming symptoms of dissolution appeared; shortly after which, the Prince of Wales, and some other persons of distinction, intimately acquainted with his Lordship, were sent for, of whom he took an affecting farewell, and at the time already mentioned, his brave spirit took its departure "for another and a better world."—His Lordship's campaigns in India established his fame as a skilful and gallant officer, and for his meritorious conduct there, he was promoted to the Peerage. We believe his Lord-

ship has left no male issue; in which case his title descends to his brother Gerard Lake, Esq. The deceased was a General in the Army, Colonel of the 30th Foot, Governor of Plymouth, and Treasurer of the Duchy of Cornwall. He was a Member of the Court Martial now sitting on the Trial of General Whitelocke. *A further account of his Lordship will be given in our next*

The Earl of Craufurd and Lindsay.—The title of Viscount Garnock, of Kilberney, descends to Sir Robert Craufurd, Bart; the 2d son of John, then Earl of Craufurd and Lindsay having married the 2d daughter of Sir John Craufurd, of Kilberney, who was created Viscount of Garnock by Queen Anne in 1703, on whom, and her heirs male, the said Sir John settled his estate by entail, 31st July, 1662, upon condition of every heir carrying the surname and arms of Craufurd; and Sir Robert Craufurd being lineally descended, and being the representative of the Craufurds, of Jordanhill and Kilberney, of course that title returns whence it came, there being no male heirs of the late Earl of Craufurd.

At Tunbridge Wells, John Wiggin, Esq. of Craven Hill, Middlesex, eminent as an iron merchant in Thames-street, but still more eminent for his most excellent character through life.

IRELAND.—The linen trade of Ireland is likely to suffer much by the suspension of the accustomed supply of flax-seed. The importation of flax-seed, on an average of 10 years, was about 42,000 hogsheads annually. A hogshead sowed about one acre 3 roods Irish measure, and produced on an average 84 stone of rough flax, fit for the hatchel, which at a moderate price would sell for about forty guineas. A large portion of the imported seed, both flax and hemp, (as well as red and white clover) came from Holland and the Baltic, the rest from America; and these sources being for the present closed, so great an advance in price is expected, that it is hoped the Legislature will adopt some means to encourage an extensive cultivation of the crops in our own country the ensuing season.

FOREIGN EVENTS.

AMERICA.

Mr. RANDOLPH & Gen. WILKINSON.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 31.

This morning the town was alarmed by bills, stuck up at every Tavern, corners of Streets, &c. The following is a copy, as near as I can recollect:—

"HECTOR UNMASKED!

"In justice to my character, I denounce to the world, JOHN RANDOLPH, Member of Congress, a prevaricating, base, calumniating scoundrel, poltroon and coward.

"JAS. WILKINSON."

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN RANDOLPH AND WILKINSON.

SIR, Washington, Dec. 21, 1807.

I understand several expressions have escaped you, in their nature personal, and highly injurious to my reputation. The exceptionable language imputed to you, may be briefly and substantially compassed in the following statement. That you have avowed your opinion I was a rogue—that you have ascribed to me the infernal disposition to commit murder, to prevent the exposition of my sinister designs, and through me have stigmatised those Citizen Soldiers who compose the meritorious military Corps of our Country.

No person can be more sensible of the pernicious tendency of such cruel and undeserved reflections, in their application to public men or private individuals, than yourself; nor is any man more competent to determine the just reparation to which they establish a fair claim. Under these impressions, I can have no hesitation to appeal to your justice, your magnanimity, and your gallantry, to prescribe the manner and the measures of redress, being persuaded your decision will comport with the feelings of a man of honour, and that you will be found equally prompt to assert a right or repair a wrong.

I transmit this letter through the post-office, and shall expect your answer, by such channel as you may deem most proper.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your obedient servant,
(Signed) JAS. WILKINSON.

The Hon. John Randolph.

SIR.—Several months ago I was informed of your having said, that you were acquainted with what had passed in the grand jury room at Richmond, last spring, and that you had declared a determination to challenge me. I am to consider your letter of last night, by mail, as the execution of this avowed purpose, and, through the same channel, return you my answer. Whatever may have been the expressions used by me, in relation to your character, they were the result of deliberate opinion, founded upon the most authentic evidence, the greater part of which my country imposed upon me the painful duty to weigh and decide upon; they were such as to my knowledge and to your's, have been delivered by hundreds of the first men in the Union, and probably by a full moiety of the American people. In you, Sir, I can recognize no right to hold me accountable for my public or private opinion of your character, that would not subject me to an equal claim from Colonel Burr, or Serjeant Dunbaugh. I cannot descend to your level. This is my final answer.

(Signed) JOHN RANDOLPH.

Brigadier-General Wilkinson.

Washington, Dec. 28.

SIR,—I have received your letter of the 25th instant, by mail, in which you violate truth and honour, to indulge the inherent malignity and rancour of your soul. On what 'level,' pray Sir, shall we find the wretch, who, to masque his cowardice, fabricates falsehoods, and heaps unprovoked insults upon unmerited injuries? You, John Randolph are this man, and your own breast can best solve the proposition. You cannot descend to my 'level;' vain equivocal thing! And do you believe this dastardly subterfuge will avail you, or that your lion's skin will longer conceal your true character; embrace the alternative still within your reach, and ascend to the 'level' of a gentleman, if possible; act like a man, if you can, and spare me the pain of publishing you to the world, for an insolent, slanderous prevaricating poltroon.

JAMES WILKINSON.

John Randolph, Esq.

N. B. The first idea suggested by the indecency of your response to my letter, was the chastisement of my cane, from which the sacred respect I owe to the station you occupy in the Councils of the Nation, has alone protected you; and to the consequent conflict of feeling and duty must be asscribed the delay of this note.

JAMES WILKINSON.

John Randolph, Esq.

General Wilkinson has applied for a Court of Inquiry.

FRANCE.

The Tribunal of Alencon has lately decided a very singular cause. The Assistant of the Commune of Radon, the Mayor of which was dead, performed the functions of Mayor. Determining to marry, and consulting nobody, he decided that he could be at one and the same time the public officer and the contracting party. Thus, after having published to himself alone the banns prescribed by the law, he put to himself as public officer the following question—whether he would be the husband of the lady he married? he replied himself in the character of contracting party, that he would—he then pronounced the two parties man and wife.

Had the circumstance not been of an important nature, it would have been a very laughable one; but the Attorney General coming to the knowledge of it, instituted an action. The marriage was declared null and void, being a private act, and contrary to the Code Napoleon; but the parties were declared to be at liberty to contract a legal and serious marriage, conformably to the formalities prescribed by the laws.

HOLLAND.

ROYAL DECREE.

Louis Napoleon, &c.—Considering that every European nation ought to co-operate with all its might to the triumph of the cause of the Continent, in a contest which will not be of long duration, and whose result is not doubtful—considering that our particular duty, as well as the dearest interests of our people, commands us to accede in all points to the desires of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, our illustrious Brother, and even to surpass his hopes—considering that the indemnity and relief which our kingdom has a right to de-

mand and expect depend entirely upon the powerful intervention of France—considering, in fine, that however great the sacrifices hitherto made by this country may be, and however painful its situation, both under the relations of commerce and those of finance, it is of much greater interest to dissipate all the doubts that might exist with respect to our intentions, and to prove to Europe, in the most signal manner, our attachment, and that of our people, to the common cause, have decreed, and do decree as follows:

Art. 1. From the publication of the present decree, all the ports of our kingdom shall be shut against all ships, whatever be their denomination. Those only are excepted from this disposition (and provisionally till a new Order), of which mention is made in the 2d Article.

2. Armed ships of our Allies are not included in the exclusion directed by the preceding article. They may enter and quit our ports, and bring in their prizes by conforming to the Ordinances issued relative to the entrance and departure of ships of war.

3. Ships of the Allies of Nuetral Powers, which may enter our ports, to avoid the danger of the sea, shall have no communication with the interior of the kingdom. They shall be subjected to quarantine, and be under the most severe superintendance.—The Commandant of the Port shall make them put to sea as soon as the weather shall permit.

4. Fishing-boats are under the direct superintendance of the Civil and Military Authorities upon the coast.—These Authorities shall take care, on their responsibility, that no communication take place, by means of the fishermen, with the enemy's ships and other ships. To that end, there shall be placed as a sentinel, a soldier on board each fishing boat. On the return of the boat, the sentinel shall make his report of what has passed during the fishery, contrary to the dispositions of the present decree, and the owner of the boat and crew shall be prosecuted with all the rigour of the laws.

Given at Utrecht, Jan. 23.

(Signed) Louis.

PRUSSIA.

DECLARATION of PRUSSIA against ENGLAND.

"The King being obliged, by the 27th Article of the Treaty of the Peace of Tilsit, concluded on the 9th July, 1807, to shut, without exception, the Prussian ports and states against the trade and navigation of England, as long as the present war lasted between England and France, his Majesty has hot hesitated to take progressively the most appropriate measures to fulfil his engagemnts.

"In directing these measures, his Majesty did not dissemble the prejudice and loss which would result to the commerce of his dominions in general and that of his subjects, who, by a long series of misfortunes, have acquired new rights to his paternal solicitude and benevolence; but his Majesty yielded to the consolatory hope, that the mediation offered by Russia to England, by accelerating the return of a definitive Peace been Great Britain and France, would soon bring about an order of things more congenial to the particular interests of each Power.

"The King has been deceived in his just expectation; the events that have taken place since, and which are too well known to render it necessary to recapitulate them, far from bringing the so much desired period of general peace nearer, have only placed it at a greater distance.

"All communication is broken off between Russia and England. The declaration of his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, published the 26th October, proves that there is no longer any relation between those two Powers. His Prussian Majesty, intimately connected by all his relations with the cause and system of the continental neighbouring and friendly Powers, has no other rules of conduct than his duties founded upon the interest of his States, and the obligation cotracted by a solemn Treaty.

Conformably to these principles, his Majesty, setting aside those considerations which he had hitherto respected, in the vain hope of a speedy general pacification; and having refused, since the mission of Lord Hutchinson, to receive at his Court any

English Diplomatic Agent, has just ordered his Legation at London to quit England and return to the Continent.

"His Majesty the King of Prussia, in making known the resolution which his engagements and the interest of his Monarchy impose upon him as a duty, declares by these presents, that, till the restoration of a Definitive Peace between the two Belligerent Powers, there shall be no relation between Prussia and England.

"FREDERICK WILLIAM."

"Memel, Dec. 1, 1807."

PORTUGAL.

PROCLAMATION.

Don Joseph Maria de Melio, Titular Bishop of Algalva, Inquisitor General of this Kingdom, Member of her Majesty's Council, and her Confessor.

To all the faithful of the Holy Church, health, peace, and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour and God.

"The place of Inquisitor General of this Kingdom which we occupy, unworthy of it as we are; the holy espicopal character with which we are invested; the exemplary zeal with which the most eminent and venerable Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon has just recommended, with so touching an unction, in his last pastoral Letter, the preservation of tranquillity, peace, and Christian union, necessary in all times, and above all in the present, all these considerations impose upon us the duty of concurring on our side; and, as far as we can, in a salutary object, and without which we cannot hope for any happiness either upon earth, or, which ought more to concern us, in the life to come. We address them to all the faithful of the Holy Church, to the inhabitants of this city and kingdom, we conjure them to be attentive and docile to the wise and pacific instructions of their venerable father and pastor, in a circumstance which concerns their present fate and their eternal happiness. We can do nothing better than to recall to them the paternal advice of that great prelate. Let them consider the situation in which we are, the favours which the Divine goodness has heaped upon us, in the midst of our tribulations; let them bless God in all things; let them adore with an humble and contrite heart the immutable decrees of Providence, and let them be grateful for the innumerable benefits we have received from his all powerful hand.—Let us reckon amongst those signal benefits, the peace and good order which have and do reign in this kingdom since a great army has come to our succour. We are certain of our happiness if we know how to profit by it—we enjoy equal security both in our houses and out.

"Let us not forget that we owe these advantages to the zeal and activity of the General in Chief who commands us, and whose virtues we have long known; that the army which is in the midst of us is that of his Majesty the Emperor of the French and King of Italy, Napoleon the Great; that that Monarch has been sent by God to protect religion, and render people happy; that he will pour upon us the blessing of peace, if we love each other with fraternal charity—that by that means religion and its Ministers will always be respected, and that in fine we shall enjoy all sorts of happiness, if we shew ourselves worthy of such great protection. It is thus that we ought to conduct ourselves to accomplish faithfully the precepts of the Lord, who commands us to obey power, not through fear, but through a duty of conscience. Let us incessantly have before our eyes the touching exhortations which the venerable pastor of this City and Diocese has addressed to his flock, to unite them in Christan charity, and to obtain peace and repose, of which we have so much need; and because that object is of the greatest importance, even for the preservation of the purity of our faith, we conjure all the Deputies of the Council General of Inquisition and other Ministers of the Holy Office, to unite their zeal to ours to maintain and consolidate the public tranquillity. We recommend it especially to all the regulars in general, and to each in particular, to give, in all circumstances, the example of perfect submission, as it becomes the Ministers of a God of Peace, who offer

daily the sacrifice of propitiation, and who ought to be models of evangelical perfection to the people. We exhort them to recall without ceasing to the faithful their duties; and above all, to impress them with this truth, that there never can be too much peace and union. And, in order that our letter may reach all the tribunals of inquisition in the kingdom, we have caused it to be stuck up and published in the churches of our district in the accustomed form.

"Given at Lisbon, under the seal of the Holy Office, Dec. 22."

GAZETTE LETTERS.

Gallant Actions.

To the Honourable W. W. Pole.

Belleisle, Tortola Roads,
Nov. 7, 1807.

SIR,

The inclosed letter, which I have just received from Mr. Rogers, the master of the Windsor Castle packet, gives an account of the capture of a French privateer.

It is such an instance of bravery and persevering courage, combined with great presence of mind, as was scarcely ever exceeded. He has shewn such ability in defending one of his Majesty's packets, that I hope it will secure him the command of the first that is vacant.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. COCHRANE.

Windsor Castle Packet, Carlisle Bay, 3d Oct 1807.

SIR,

Having, on my passage from England in the Windsor Castle packet, with the mails for Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands, been attacked by a French privateer within the limits of your station, I take the liberty of acquainting you, that we were fortunate enough to capture her after a severe action, and arrived with her safe in this bay. She was seen on the morning of the 1st of October, in latitude 13° 58 N. and longitude 58° 1 W.; and about half-past eight made all sail in chase of the packet, when every exertion was made to get away from her; but finding it impossible, preparations were made to make the best resistance we could, and arrangements to sink the mails, if necessary.

At noon the schooner got within gun-shot, hoisted French colours, and began her fire, which was returned from the stern-chase guns; this was continued until she came near, when we were hailed in very opprobrious terms, and desired to strike the colours. On refusing to do so, she ran alongside, grappled the packet, and attempted to board, which we repulsed by the pikes, with the loss of eight or ten men on the part of the enemy, when the schooner attempted to get clear by cutting the grapplings, but the main-yard being locked in her rigging she was prevented. Great exertions were continued on both sides: and I had occasion to station a part of the crew in charge of the mails, to shift them as circumstances required, or to cut them away in case of our failure. About three, we got one of our six-pounder carronades to bear upon the schooner, loaded with double grape cannister, and one hundred musket-balls, which was fired at the moment the enemy was making a second desperate attempt to board, and killed and wounded a great number. Soon after this I embraced the opportunity of boarding, in turn, with five men, and succeeding in driving the enemy from his quarters, and about four o'clock the schooner was completely in our possession. She is named the Jeune Richard, mounting six six-pounders and one long eighteen-pounder, having on board, at the commencement of the action, ninety-two men, of whom twenty-one were found dead on her decks, and thirty-three wounded. From the very superior numbers of the enemy still remaining, it was necessary to use every precaution in securing the prisoners. I was obliged to order them up from below one by one, and place them in their own irons as they came up, as three of our little crew were killed, and ten severely wounded, the mizen-mast and main-yard carried away, and the rigging, fore-and-aft, much damaged. It is my duty to mention to you, Sir, that the crew of the packet, amounting at first to only to twenty-eight, men and boys, supported me with the greatest gallantry during the whole of this arduous contest.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. ROGERS, acting captain.

To Admiral Cochrane.

His Majesty's Hired Arm Brig Ann, Plymouth Sound, Dec. 16, 1807.

SIR—In execution to your order of the 14, I have to acquaint you, on the 20th November, at noon, being in latitude 41 41 N. and long. 10 30 W. of my falling in with and capturing the Spanish lugger privateer Vansigo, pierced for fourteen guns, but only six four-pounders, and one long brass twelve-pounder mounted, with forty-five men; out eight days from Ferrol; had not made any captures: also, on my entering the Straits of Gibraltar on the morning of the 24th, with a fresh breeze from W.N.W. (the lugger in company) about half-past nine *a. m.* falling little wind, the island of Terrifa N.E. by N. observed ten of the enemy's gun-boats rowing towards me. At ten, the headmost fired a shot, and hoisted a red flag. Finding it impossible to escape, I shortened sail to receive them. At a quarter past ten, the three headmost closed, and commenced action. At half-past ten, seven more closing, the lugger struck, having hailed to inform me she had three men killed. At eleven, dismasted one of the enemy's gun-boats, and two more having struck, discontinued the action; but did not think it prudent to attempt to take possession, having on board forty-two prisoners, and charged with dispatches, (my complement being only thirty-nine, nine of which were on board the lugger). At ten minutes past eleven, got the vessel round by the assistance of the sweeps, and opened my fire on five who had taken possession of the lugger, and again closing on my starboard quarter with an intention to board; but finding my guns so well supplied with round and grape, and ready to receive them in case of boarding, at one o'clock *p. m.* they sweeped out of gun-shot, carrying off my prize. I am happy in having the pleasure to add, that although six of the largest were within pistol-shot for nearly one hour and a half, I have not a man hurt. It would be needless for me to attempt to say any thing in favour of Mr. Olden, the master, and each of the crew, only my great satisfaction on beholding the high flow of spirits which is generally manifested in the countenance of every British sailor, although opposed to so superior a force, and their regret at not being able to sink the two which had struck. I am, &c.

(Signed) J. M'KENZIE.

To Admiral Young.

Dover, Jan. 29.

About half past ten *a. m.* yesterday, the brig Catherine, of 111 tons, set sail from Spithead. The only persons on board were the owner of her, with his son and two men. About five *p. m.* a large lugger was discovered, which made towards the brig, which was then off the Owers, and boarded and took possession of her: she carried 18 guns, and 100 men: when she had taken the owner and his son from the brig she put four men on board, (two French, a Dane, and a person whom they fear is an Englishman) and then left her. The captors were now steering for a French port, when, after having kept possession for about three hours, the prize-master, a Frenchman, went below, and the two English seaman, who had been left on board, agreed to attempt a recapture. They accordingly attacked the remaining three. W. Francis began by striking with a cutlass at the man at the helm, who returned it with a bayonet, and was stabbed in the breast, and after a scuffle thrown overboard. Francis then engaged a Frenchman, and was himself knocked down; but being relieved by his messmate, J. Thompson, who had hitherto stood centry over the prize-master and a Dane who had escaped below, the Frenchman "*scudded*," as Francis termed it, down below, and hid himself in the forecastle, and never again exhibited his laurels till nine this morning. The man, supposed to be an Englishman, who had been thrown overboard, having got on board again attempted to renew the contest, but with the loss of blood fell down motionless.

It was now about ten o'clock, and the two Britons, having entirely subdued their four opponents, took the wounded man below, and covered him up with a blanket, ordered two of their prisoners below, and kept one on deck to assist them in working the ship, which, about ten this morning they brought safe into this harbour. The wounded man was brought on shore, and carried to the hospital.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

MR. LANCASTER, on Thursday last (Feb. 18) happening to be at Cambridge, on his return from Lynn to London, was prevailed upon to give a public lecture upon the utility of his System of Education for poor children of both sexes, in the evening at the town-hall, which was very numerously attended by gentlemen of the university and town, the Rev. Dr. Ramsden in the chair. A committee was soon afterwards appointed, and a subscription entered into, which now amounts to about 900l.

Died.] Feb. 18, after a short illness, in the 82d year of his age, the Rev. John Barker, D.D Master of Christ College. B.A. 1748, M.A. 1752, D.D. 1781. He was elected master in the year 1780, and served the office of vice-chancellor for that year. Dr. Barker held two livings in Lincolnshire, in the gift of the crown. And on the next day died, in the 76th year of her age, Mrs. Barker, widow of the said Dr. Barker, at Christ College Lodge. Their remains were interred in the College chapel. They were a truly respectable couple, charitable to the poor, hospitable to all. They lived beloved, and died lamented.—— Feb. 11, Lieutenant Francis, of the second battalion of the 9th regiment of foot, second son of the Rev. John Francis, M.A. formerly vicar of Soham, in this county.

CHESHIRE.

Died.] At his seat in Cheshire, Richard Pennant, Baron Penrhyn, of Penrhyn, in the county of Louth, Ireland. His lordship was the son of John Pennant, of Penrhyn, esq. and was created a Baron the 26th of September, 1783. In 1765, his lordship, then Mr. Pennant, married Ann Susannah, only child and heiress of Lieutenant-General Hugh Warburton, of Winnington, in Cheshire.

CUMBERLAND.

Accidentally drowned, William H. Milbourne, esq. of Armathwaite Castle, who, on Wednesday the 10th instant, while walking by the river side near his own house, unfortunately slipped in, and, no person being near to give him any assistance, perished.

ESSEX.

A very useful instrument is in use in this county for destroying thistles. This implement, assisted by a draft of horses, is calculated to force a horizontal cutting share through the soil, at a short distance beneath the surface, in such a manner as to cut the roots of the thistle completely across, which entirely destroys them, as they are tap-rooted plants, and derive little or no nourishment from horizontal roots. —The cutting instrument is about three feet and a half long, is five inches broad, and about an inch thick at the back, and sharp at the front: it has strong uprights of iron rising from each end of it, connecting it to the frame by which it is drawn, by passing through square perforations formed in it to admit them, in which they are fastened tightly by wedges, &c. This implement is likewise useful in eradicating those weeds whose roots only extend to the depth of four or five inches. It is thought by some persons, that if the ground was first cleared of the bean-stalks to make room for the horses, it might be used to good purpose for cutting down a bean-crop, for cutting peas, and taking up turnips and rape. The implement, however, might be considerably simplified in its mode of operation.

HAMPSHIRE.

Milbrook Common, which has hitherto been waste land, is now inclosed and cultivated; and the goodness of the soil promises well to the occupiers.

From the enquiry instituted, in consequence of the rumours circulated of several persons having had the small-pox, at Ringwood, after vaccination, it appears by the statement of three surgeons, Messrs. J. Ring, W. Blair, and T. S. Knowles, published by order of the Jennerian Society, that there was no satisfactory evidence of any person having caught the small-pox after being properly vaccinated; on the contrary, upwards of two hundred persons, who had been properly vaccinated, were protected from the small-pox, although exposed to its infection in different ways. There were various instances of imperfect vaccination, or where the vaccine inoculations did not take effect, and where,

consequently, the susceptibility to the small-pox still remained. The rumour of two persons having died of vaccine ulcers appeared to be without foundation.

KENT.

Much damage has been done along this coast during the late storm; many vessels have been driven on shore. The fall of snow, on Thursday, Feb. 11, was the severest experienced for a length of time. Of twenty mails that usually reach the general post-office in London early on Saturday morning, ten remained due at one o'clock in the afternoon. The accounts received from various parts of the interior are very distressing. Many persons have lost their lives, some of whom were frozen to death, and others killed by carriages upsetting. The fall of snow was particularly heavy upon the north road, in many parts it drifted from forty to fifty feet deep. In every direction it was found necessary to put an additional number of horses to the coaches, but in few instances only was the difficulty thus overcome. In the vicinity of Biggleswade, the Newcastle and several other mail coaches were completely buried in the snow, and it was only by the greatest labour and exertions the passengers were rescued from their perilous situation. In other places, the mails were taken out, and forwarded on horseback; but even this mode of conveyance was interrupted in some cases. Several horses were killed, either by falls or excessive fatigue. The damage done at sea, we fear, has been very considerable, particularly on the north and eastern coasts.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

BELVOIR CASTLE.—This splendid and venerable castle, and seat of the Duke of Rutland, has undergone great improvements. A new tower has been built on the south side of the castle, and all the alterations were completed by the 4th of January last, when his grace entered his 30th year; a new flag was hoisted, and a grand ball was given in honour of the day. The apartments are fitted up in the greatest style of elegance; they are hung with crimson and sky-blue velvet, surmounted with rich draperies. A great quantity of ale was brewed in preparation, to gladden the hearts of the surrounding neighbourhood.

At Mountsorrel, is to be seen an extraordinary vine, which contains about one hundred yards in surface, extending from a single stem upwards of twenty yards in length, and about five yards in height. It is at this time supposed to have a burthen of three hundred weight of grapes; a considerable quantity of good wine is annually made from it.

Died.] At his seat at Stapleford, the Right Hon. Philip Sherard, Earl and Baron of Harborough, and Baron of Leitrim, in Ireland. His lordship was in his 41st year. He is succeeded in titles and estates by his only son Philip, who is about twelve years of age. His lordship married Miss Monckton, daughter of the Hon. Colonel John Monckton, by whom he has left the above son and several daughters.

NORFOLK.

At a late meeting of the principal merchants of Yarmouth, the Mayor in the chair, the following was unanimously agreed to—"We the undersigned, having examined the apparatus invented by Captain Manby, Barrack-Master, &c. and many of us having seen experiments successfully tried, are of opinion, that the system is fully adequate to the laudable purpose of the inventor, and likely to prove highly serviceable in saving the lives of persons stranded in vessels on a lee shore; we therefore think it a duty to recommend it to the serious attention of his Majesty's executive government, &c." The plan is perfectly simple, and consists in throwing from a cohorn, a rope over the stranded vessel, by which the people are able to communicate with the shore. In the same manner, a grapnel may be thrown from a howitzer, in order to haul a boat over the surf, for the assistance of ships in distress.

A Telegraph is erecting upon the hills leading from Norwich to Thorpe. It is to be commanded by a naval officer, and the object of it is to open and maintain a prompt communication with Yarmouth on the one side,

and with the telegraphs between this city and London on the other.

An application will be made to Parliament to sanction a plan for a good communication to the Great North Road, by means of a bridge over the river near Wisbech.

A picture of superior excellence has just been finished in this county, by Mr. Weaver, an eminent artist at Shrewsbury, at the request of the principal agriculturists at large, but more especially of those in the county of Norfolk, chiefly for the purpose of obtaining a likeness of Mr. Coke, their liberal and much-respected patron. The subject is one that nearly interests them, and the portraits are all taken from life. Mr. Coke is represented as taking down minutes of the most prominent excellencies of some South Down sheep, under the inspection of Mr. Walton and two Holkham shepherds. The likenesses are truly impressive, and the *tout ensemble* most exquisite.—An engraving will be immediately taken from the painting, for the gratification of Mr. Coke's numerous friends.

On Thursday se'nnight Mr. J. Lancaster delivered a Lecture on his improved method of Education, to nearly 300 auditors, at the Quakers' Meeting-house, Downham Market, when the same was received with every mark of respect and attention.—His plan has, in part, been some months carried into effect by the liberality of friend Zachariah Clarke, of the same parish, at whose expence the boys are educated.—Subscriptions were not entered into, but recommended for a future consideration, in behalf of the females of that and the parishes in the neighbourhood.

The East India Company's annual orders for Camblets, called broad Whites, have been issued, and about 24,000 pieces have been contracted for by the manufacturers of Norwich, which has given temporary employment to numerous distressed journeymen weavers.

Œconomy in feeding Sheep.—Mr. Coke, of Holkham causes to be strewed upon the pasture grounds of his park a certain quantity of the boughs of fir-trees from his plantations, (which are regularly and carefully pruned by the best system of pruning) in the same manner as turnips are thrown to stock upon a farm: and with them hay is given in racks. The sheep are driven to them regularly every evening; and before they go out to turnips the next day, the leaves are all stript from the boughs of the firs. Afterwards, the boughs are carefully tied up in faggots, and sent to be burnt in the brick-kiln. Mr. Coke has pursued this method during the last snows and frosts. The saving has been a load of hay daily; the sheep have thriven well upon the food; the plantations are the better for being thus pruned and cleared; and the pasture ground has received the benefit of the *teathe* of the sheep as regularly as if the fold had been struck every day.

Died.] After a few days illness, in the 60th year of his age, much regretted, the Rev. Joshua Larwood, Rector of Swanton Morley, in this county, and many years Chaplain on board the Britannia; author of Erratics, and several useful publications. ——Aged 82, Francis Colombine, Esq. of Norwich, who served the office of Sheriff in 1769, and of Mayor in 1776, but had resigned his Alderman's gown some years.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Died.] In Walcot Poor-house, Bath, Jas. Waite, aged 108, he was born in the house adjoining the White Horse Cellar, opposite Walcot Church, and was never out of the parish a twelve-month together; he lived as a servant to old 'Squire Hooper 16 years, but was the greater part of his life a chairman: he remembers when there were only eighty houses in the parish of Walcot, and no poor rate! There were two capital clothiers in it; Waite had three wives; by the first he had five children, one of whom survives him, and who is likewise a chairman: he went into the poor-house April 7, 1797; and was then, by his own account, 97, though it was reported he was 103: he had lived there nearly 11 years, and always expressed himself grateful for the humane attention he experienced: he perfectly recollected hearing about the death of Queen

Anne, and the Coronation of George I. His faculties were clear till within three or four days of his dissolution.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ARTS.—The Marquis of Stafford has displayed more taste and spirit in his exertions to promote, encourage, and patronise the fine arts, than most noblemen in this country: he is at present engaged in erecting a gallery at Trentham Hall, in Staffordshire, to be entirely appropriated to the productions of English artists. For the decoration of this, the noble Marquis has purchased a number of the best selected paintings from the British Gallery, at a considerable expense: these, together with several others, which his Lordship has collected from other sources, are shortly to be sent down to enrich this new depository of the arts. The gallery is to be 60 feet long, and is to be constructed in the most magnificent and elegant style that the taste of Tatham, the architect, can devise.

Died.] After a long illness, which he bore with great fortitude, Matthew Talbot, of the White Hart, Bridgford, near Stafford, aged 46. Some time previous to his death he was seized with a lethargic complaint, commonly called a trance, in which he continued for several days, as in a profound sleep. He then awoke for a short time, in a most impatient state of hunger. Having satisfied the cravings of nature, he again gradually fell into the same drowsy and insensible state, from which nothing could rouse him. In this fit of lethargy he continued for a whole week, when he awoke only to meet the sleep of death.

SUSSEX.

Mr. Fuller's election for this county having been petitioned against by Colonel Sergisson, he has informed the House or Commons, "that it is not his intention to defend his said election or return."

Died.] At Brighton, Mrs. A. M. Bennett.—This Lady, whose remembrance will long be cherished with grateful fondness by those whose happiness it was to experience her friendship, and who has left a numerous family to regret her irreparable loss, was justly celebrated as a writer among that class of readers whose zest is for novels, and in which line she may be ranked with a Fielding and a Richardson. Possessed of a well-informed and highly-cultivated mind, she delineated characters with peculiar success, and had all the other requisites of an excellent Novellist—description, sentiment, humour, and pathos; considerable knowledge of life, and the happy art of displaying that knowledge to advantage. Her first work was "Anna, or the Welch Heiress," in 4 vols. an impression of which was disposed of on the day of publication. She afterwards wrote "Juvenile Indiscretions," in 5 vols. "Agnes de Courci," in 4 vols. "Ellen, Countess of Castle Howel," in 4 vols. "The Beggar Girl, and her Benefactors," in 5 vols. The last effusion of her pen that was presented to the public was, "Vicissitudes Abroad, or the Ghost of my Father," in 6 vols. of which two thousand copies were sold on the day it made its appearance; and we understand the public will soon receive a continuation of this novel, under the title of "Vicissitudes at Home." The estimation in which her works are held by the public, may be justly inferred from the circumstance of their having gone rapidly through several editions, both here and on the continent, where they have been translated into French and German. It may be truly said, that her writings appeal most successfully to the heart, and that her pen was ever guided by nature, delineating men and manners as they appear in real life. Virtue was held up to estimation, and vice and folly shewn in their native deformities. The funeral took place on Sunday, the 21st of February. The solemn procession arrived from Brighton at the Horns, on Kennington Common, about 12 o'clock, where it was joined by a numerous and most respectable train of friends, who attended her remains to the grave, anxious to pay that last tribute to the memory of departed worth, but whose works will live so long as a chaste style, and dignified sentiments, expressed in the cause of virtue and morality, diffuse their influence on mankind.

YORKSHIRE.

Died.] After a long and very painful illness, which he bore with true Christian fortitude, to the great grief of his amiable family, Francis Cholmeley, esq. of Brandsby; his death is much regretted by a respectable tenantry, and a comfortable and grateful poor, to whose wants he was ever attentive; though not a man of fashion, none was more the gentleman; he was a man of superior information. upright in all his transactions; and he will be long remembered in the neighbourhood with great respect.—At Clea, near Grimsby, aged 75, Mrs. Elizabeth Fridlington, of that place, a maiden lady: she had long lived in a penurious manner, but, after her decease, upwards of 3,400l. in gold was found in her house, wrapped up in small linen bags, containing about 100l. in each, together with some silver and copper coin, altogether weighing five stone two pounds: she was also possessed of landed property to the amount of 4000l. or 5000l.—Mr. Wm. Dunn, of Redhill, Sheffield, an eminent engineer. Mr. D. was a very intelligent and well-informed man.—Rev. J. Milner, 30 years minister of Hunlet, near Leeds.

WALES.

Died.] At Rhos Llanerchrygog, near Wrexham, Mrs. Eliz. Rogers, widow, aged 89: she had 17 children, 68 grand-children, and 35 great grand-children—in all, 121: she was left a widow, with a numerous train of infants, without any means of support, but her industry, and the assistance of her three eldest children, who all laboured hard at the loom to maintain themselves and the younger branches. For the last thirty years she practised midwifery with great success and credit; in that space of time she assisted at the birth of 4000 children; she was ever ready to lend an assisting hand to support the drooping head, and ease the pillow of the afflicted.

SCOTLAND.

Much misrepresentation having been broached respecting the consolidation of farms, and the plans of a Caithness baronet, a person on the spot observes, that by the baronet's consolidation of farms, not for agricultural purposes, but for the introduction of sheep, it appears he has ejected a great number of families. It has been said, that this gentleman had built a town for the ejected farmers; but this town is in reality as yet only *one house*, which is engaged to Government as an excise office. Though no cottages are yet built, it is a fact, that by this plan, several comfortable farmers are reduced to what, in Caithness, is called a cotter. A cotter, even to this day, is obliged to work three or four days in the week for his landlord, and send him so many dozens of fowls and eggs, a few pigs, some wood, cheese, &c. that he can hardly be said to live. In short, the ejected farmers are so distressed, that last year a vessel sailed from Caithness for America, having on board 130 of them; and even in September last, another vessel sailed from the same place with 150 more.

The Royal Society of Edinburgh, in testimony of its high respect for the illustrious Werner (the celebrated German mineralogist), has conferred upon him the distinction of being one of its honorary members.

Died.] At his house in Ayrshire, the Earl of Crawford and Lindsey.—At Elie-house, Fifeshire, Sir Philip Anstruther, bart.—In the 23d year of his age, at Edinburgh, Lord Alexander Gordon, youngest son of the Duke of Gordon. The deceased only entered into his 23d year in November last. His disorder was inward: he was attended by his mother the Duchess of Gordon, his sister the Duchess of Bedford, and the Marquis of Huntley, his lordship's brother.—Lately, at Kinfauns, near Perth, in his 87th year, Andrew Hall, sexton of that parish. He succeeded his father in the year 1742, and it is probably a circumstance unequalled in the annals of the church of Scotland, that his grandfather, his father, and himself, held that office for the space of 160 years. It is supposed, that his youngest son, who is 63 years of age, will succeed to the office of sexton.

IRELAND.

A very laudable example has been lately set in the parish of Delgany, county Wicklow, to the different parishes. The society propose, at the commencement of the winter,

which we hope will be followed up, to sell blankets, shoes, coals, flannels, frize, shirts, shifts, and oatmeal, to the honest poor inhabitants, who bring recommendations from the parish priest, or some respectable housekeeper, on depositing one fourth of the price, and paying the remainder by weekly instalments of one shilling in the pound, till the whole shall be paid: but if they pay ready money, they get the article one fourth less than first cost.

Died.] At the advanced age of 110 years, Denis Hampson, the blind bard of Magilligan, of whom so interesting an account is given by Miss Owenson, in her elegant work, "The Wild Irish Girl." A few hours before his death he tuned his harp, in order to have it in readiness to entertain Sir H. Bruce's family, who were expected to pass that way in a few days, and who were in the habit of stopping to hear his music; shortly after, however, he felt the approach of death, and calling his family around him, resigned his breath without a struggle, being in perfect possession of his faculties to the last moment.

At his house in George's-street, Limerick, Robert Warburton, esq. captain in the royal navy, to which he was promoted in 1795, and for twelve years regulating officer of that port. He was a few days before appointed by the admiralty to the port of Dublin, where he intended to remove.

At his house at Cold Blow, near Dublin, the Rev. Thos. Lyster, D.D. aged 66 years: he was a curate in the city of Dublin 44 years, in the parishes of St. Werburgh and St. Peter, and acted as secretary to the Dublin Society for 35 years, with the strictest integrity and assiduity. This gentleman was married to Miss Ould, only daughter of Sir Fielding Ould, who was knighted by the father of the present Duke of Bedford, when lord lieutenant of Ireland. Mr. Lyster's situation as secretary made him known to all the nobility and landed interest of Ireland. Many were the livings bestowed on *amiable* persons during thirty-five years; yet this worthy unassuming man died a curate at the age of 66.

At Newmarket, county of Clare, in the 96th year of his age, Michael Farrell, the well known monarch of the mendicants of Munster, over whom he reigned for 70 years with mildness, justice, and moderation. He oftener dispensed bounty to, than exacted tribute from, his subjects; and, in the course of his long reign, was never accessary to the death of one human being. Hackball, the renowned king of the beggars in Dublin, sported a vehicle, which removed his august body from place to place; but King Farrell disdained any assistance of this kind, and made use of what nature furnished him to bear him about, namely, a stout pair of legs. He, however, had for his support a long quarter-staff, which he occasionally used for his protection, having no body guards; this staff was adorned, towards the head, with brass nails, &c. which gave it very much the appearance of a sceptre; but a hat resembling that of a cardinal, and his great coat, would have covered a tent; it is therefore evident, that our royal hero was of large stature, which is certainly the case; he was also well made, had a majestic deportment, with a very intelligent and benign countenance.

DEATHS ABROAD.

At Agra, in the 95th year of her age, Kodijah Sultana Begum, sister of the Nawaub Nadjaph Khan, Vizier to the late Emperor Shah Alfum, and relict of Nawaub Mosum Khan, brother to the Nawaub Surder Jung.—Since the death of her brother, the life of this venerable and respectable Lady has been embittered by a constant series of misfortunes, unprecedented as unmerited. They reduced her, as well as the descendants of her magnanimous brother, to a state of the most wretched penury, which would have accompanied her to the grave, but for the liberal and benevolent assistance afforded by the generosity of the British Government. Her remains were interred in great state, and accompanied to the grave by a company of Sepoys, by all the Native civil Officers of Government, and by all the people of rank and respectability residing at Agra, who, by the sorrows expressed at her death, passed on the character of her whole life the highest possible eulogium.

At the government-house in the Island of Antigua, the Right Hon. Ralph Payne, Baron of Lavington of the kingdom of Ireland, Knight of the Bath, Captain General, Governor in Chief, and Vice Admiral of the Leeward Islands. Early in life, during his residence in the Island of St. Christopher's he was elected one of the representatives of the House of Assembly in that Island, and so great was the influence he had acquired from the avowed superiority of his talents and knowledge, that at the first meeting of the house he was called unanimously to the chair, and by his conduct in that distinguished situation, fully justified the choice that had been made. It was said at the time this event took place, that he was not legally qualified, from his state of minority, to take his seat as a member of the assembly, and consequently could not assume the duties of the chair. This might have been, and it is believed that the house knew it to be true, but the acquisition it had made was too great to be hazarded upon the result of a motion, and the question was never agitated. On his arrival in England, he was introduced to the highest circles, and his accomplishments soon made his society acceptable wherever he went. After having made the tour of Europe, he was elected in 1768, a member of the British Parliament, for the Borough of Shaftesbury; and in the successive parliaments of 1774 and 1780, he served for Camelford and Plympton. In 1772 he was honoured with the Order of the Bath, and at the time of his death was the senior Knight. In 1771 he was appointed Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Leeward Islands, and continued in that station until 1775, when he returned to England, and was appointed Clerk of the Board of Green Cloth, in which department he remained during the continuance of that Board. In October, 1795, he was advanced to the peerage of the kingdom of Ireland, by the title of Baron Lavington, and was again elected in the British Parliament as representative for Woodstock. In 1801, his Lordship was a second time appointed Captain General of the Leeward Islands, and sworn a member of the King's Privy Council. His lordship married Mademoiselle Françoise Lambertine, Baroness de Kolbell, of a noble Saxon family, and daughter of Frederick Maximilian, Baron de Kolbell, a general in the Imperial service, who survives him. Dying without issue the title becomes extinct. His remains were interred with military honours, in the garden of Carlisle's estate, his property, on a spot pointed out for that purpose some time before his death by his lordship.

At Calcutta, after an illness of a few hours, Richard Comyns Birch, Esq. Purveyor-General of Hospitals, Postmaster-General, and Commissioner of Chinsurah and Chandernagore; a man whose virtues shone too conspicuously in an active and useful life to need the aid of posthumous panygeric.

In the 62d year of his age, at his seat, near the Schuylkill, General Peter Muhlenburg. This gentleman, in early life, yielded to the wishes of his venerable father, the late Rev. Dr. Henry Muhlenburg, the patriarch of the German Lutheran Church, in Pennsylvania, by becoming a minister of the Episcopal Church, in which capacity he acted in an acceptable manner in Virginia, until the year 1776, when he became a member of the Convention, and afterwards a colonel of a regiment in that state. In the year 1777, he was appointed brigadier-general in the revolutionary army, in which capacity he acted until the termination of the war gave liberty and independence to his country, at which time he was promoted to the rank of major-general. After the peace, he was chosen by his fellow-citizens of Pennsylvania (his native state) to fill, in succession, the various stations of Vice-President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, Member of the House of Representatives, and Senator of the United States: and afterwards appointed by the President of the United States, Supervisor of the Excise in Pennsylvania; and, finally, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, which office he held at the time of his death.

At Vienna, Mr. Von Mack, brother of the *redoubted* General Mack, and Jeweller to the Court: he has left a fortune of *eight millions of florins!*

On the 5th of June, at sea, on board his Majesty's ship Rattlesnake, William Warden, esq. a post captain in his Majesty's navy, and commander of that ship. The death of this gallant and enterprising young officer may be considered as a great loss to the British navy, of which he promised to be one of the brightest ornaments. Captain Warden had the singular good fortune to be trained under Sir Edward Pellew, since his entrance into the navy in 1793, and shared the glory of all that officer's brilliant achievements, till his arrival to the supreme command in those seas. His death was occasioned by excessive fatigue and exposure during a violent gale of wind, in his passage to Madras.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BANKRUPTCIES.

JAN. 16, to FEB. 16, 1808, inclusive.

[*Extracted from the London Gazette.*]----*The Solicitors' Names are between Parenthesis.*

AINSWORTH W. Manchester, cotton spinner (Huxley, Pump-court, Temple). Allen S. Cardiff, fellmonger (Mangnall, Warwick-square) Abrahams S. Sandwich, linen-draper (Anthony, Earl-street).

Bateman J. Redcross-street, Bateman J. Wike, Yorkshire, and Bateman W. North Bierly, same county, woollen-manufacturers (Cardale and Spear, Gray's Inn).—Brown J. junior, Petersfield, fellmonger (Messum, Portsea). Bunn T. Norwich, corn and coal-merchant (Hister and Co. Lincoln's Inn). Bull W. Bush-lane, broker (Taylor, Old-street-road) Busby W. and Hill I. Strand, hatters (Godmond, New Bridge-street). Barker W. Cheapside, warehouseman (Adams, Old Jewry).—Boyd T. Edgware-road, grocer (Day and Co. Cullum-street). Blyth E. Louth, merchant (Barber, Gray's Inn). Bett's J. Mistley, ship-builder (Ambrose, Mistley). Bayly R. jun. Dowgate-hill, merchant (Kersey, Bishopsgate-within). Bowles A. T. and Williams T. of Kent-street, grocers (Speck, St. John's, Southwark). Barreto, V. A. S. of Liverpool, merchant (Kinderley and Co. Gray's Inn). Brooke J. Hartshead, merchant (Sykes and Co. New Inn). Beach J. Birmingham, button-maker (Egerton, Gray's Inn Square). Breffit J. Alfreton, mercer (Ross and Co. New Boswell-court).

Cassidy T. Waltham Abbey, shopkeeper (Syddall, Aldersgate-street). Cuss W. Pontefract, miller (Blakelock, Temple). Cowley J. Sheffield, cutler (Wilson, Greville-street). Cookesley R. Poole, merchant (Milne and Co. Old Jewry). Cole J. Fore-street, stationer (Pullen, Fore-st). Crowther J. Halifax, Yorkshire, corn-dealer (Hodson, Surrey-street, Strand).—Crocker G. Bideford, Devon, ship-builder (Bremridge, Inner Temple) Clemence M. Craven-street, Strand, tailor (Hamilton, Tavistock-row, Covent Garden).

Damant B. Whitechapel, brazier (Mills, Vine-street, Piccadilly). Dalton T. Birmingham, merchant (Elkington, Birmingham). Dudley C. Gracechurch-street, merchant (Eaton and Co Birchin-lane). Davis A. Stroud-green, dealer in cattle (Robinson, Charter-house-square). Davies D Thames Ditton, Surrey, maltster (Aubert, Symond's Inn). Davis A. and N. Little Carter-lane, Doctors' Commons, warehousemen (Sudlow, Monument-yard). Davis W. North-street, Chelsea, plaisterer (Howard, Temple).

Else G. Sutton Ashfield, Nottingham, hosier (Ross and Co. New Boswell-court). Ellis S. Folkingham, Lincolnshire, woollen-draper (Crosley, Holborn-court, Gray's Inn). Easton W. and Easton R. jun. Bucklersbury, warehousemen (Williams, Red Lion-square). Edgington R. Abingdon, hemp-manufacturer (Maddock and Co. Lincoln's Inn) Eadon G. otherwise Yeadon, Bermondsey-street, leather-dresser (Pearce and Son, Swithin's-lane). Elworthy J. M. St. James's-street, goldsmith (Davies, Warwick-street).

Fuller J. J Yoxford, draper (Debary and Co. Tanfield-court).

Grieveson J. sen. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, vintner (Clayton and Co. Lincoln's Inn New Square). Gordon J. Westbury-upon-Trim, merchant (James, Gray's Inn Square). Gray T. Rumford, innholder (Cutting, Bartlett's Buildings) Gell E. and A. Winksworth, grocers (Kinderley and Co. Gray's Inn).

Hudson H. Salford, manufacturer (Milne and Co. Old Jewry). Haines S. Chipping Campden, grocer (King, Took's-court). Hurren R. Kelsale, cordwainer (Rabett, Carlton). Horley R. Epsom, pork-butcher (Guy, Epsom). Hurry N. and Jones C. R. Liverpool, merchants (Atkinson, Chancery-lane). Harrison S. Manchester, and Harrison W. Sheffield, hatters (Chesshyre and Co. Manchester). Hyde A Brandon, liquor-merchant (Bremridge, Common Pleas Office) Hall F. Jermyn-street, cordwainer (Palmer, Barnard's Inn). Heaton D. widow, Heaton

M. J. and W. Spring Head, Yorkshire, cotton twist spinners (Caton and Co. Aldersgate-street). Halliday W. D. Bath-street, City-road, livery stable keeper and grocer (Pellatt, Ironmonger's-hall). Harding W. Oxford-street, hatter (Walker, Old Jewry). Harvey J. Springfield, Essex, bricklayer (Bigg, Hatton-garden). Hulme E. Manchester, victualler (Johnson and Co. Manchester).

Jarman P. and T. of Llanfihangel Brympabean, wool dealers (Meredith and Co. Gray's Inn). Jones R. Gower-street, silk-winder (Bland, Racquet-court).

Kierrulff C. G. G. Prudenge-square, merchant (Hannam, Piazza Chambers).

Lay J. B. Manchester, cotton-manufacturer (Hurd, King's Bench Walks). Lee T. Holborn, glover (Street and Co. Philpot-lane). Luck M. otherwise Seares, St Martin's Le Grand, dealer (Fryett, Millbank-street). Longmire M. Penrith, milliner (Birkett, Bond-court).

Merrefield J. Grantham, money-scrivener (Whishaw, Lamb's Conduit-street). Martin J. Louth, carpenter (Ellis, Cursitor-street). Mills C. Colonnade, Pancras, baker (Minshull and Co. Abingdon-street). Maclachlin J. Harford-place, cabinet-maker (Surnam, Golden-square). Mayell W Exeter, jeweller (Orchard, Hatton Garden). Macfadzen J. Liverpool, merchant (Battye, Chancery-lane). Mount R. and Roberts W. Angel-court, merchants (Blunt and Co. Old Pay Office). Matthews W. Maidenhead, carpenter (Richardson, New Inn). Mitchell E. Exeter, fuller (Williams and Co. New Square, Lincoln's Inn. Manfield T. Lewes, grocer (Sudlow, Monument-yard) Makeham J. Upper Thames-street, cheesemonger (Wild, Warwick-square).

Newby J. Aldgate, draper (Swaine and Co. Old Jewry).

Pettitt T. Witney, leather-dresser (Baxters and Co. Furnival's Inn). Phœnix J. Liverpool, merchant (Rowlinson, Churchyard-court, Temple). Pratten J. Waltham Abbey, tailor (Oxlade, Hoddesdon). Preston T. Aldermanbury, warehouseman (Godmond, New Bridge-street). Parrott J. Frith-street, confectioner (Howell, Bartlett's Buildings). Peynado J. R. Bevis Marks (Sudlow, Monument-yard).

Renton J. Gloucester-terrace, mariner (Healing, Lawrence-lane). Reppen J. and J. Clapham, dealers in coals (Harman, Wine-Office-court). Renwick J. jun. Burr-street, coal-merchant (Bell and Co. Bow-lane). Risleben H. Birmingham, tailor (Punton, Hind-court). Roser E. Lindfield, soap-manufacturer (Reilly, Stafford-row). Roberts S. Rhayader, flannel-manufacturer (Street and Co. Philpot-lane). Rees D. Llanelly, shopkeeper (Williams and Co New-square, Lincoln's Inn). Rickards J. Colchester, draper (Hanson and Co. Chancery-lane). Round J. Polsall, factor (Boutflower, Devonshire-street). Rose W. Kensington, brewer (Allen, Carlisle-street).

Seabrook R. Great Bradley, butcher (Windus & Co. Southampton-buildings). Standley W. Whetstone, maltster (Kinderley and Co. Gray's Inn). Simpson G. Copthall Chambers (Holmes and Co. Mark-lane). Seddon J. P. Homerton, merchant (Alcock and Co. York-street). Salisbury J. Exeter, cabinet-maker (Williams and Co. Lincoln's Inn). Seecombe J. Horrabridge, Lewarne J. Truro, Hore W. Grampound, Hoyte C. same place, Burley C. Horrabridge, and Searle R. Launceston, woollen-manufacturers (Bray, Tavistock). Swindells J. Ludworth, innkeeper (Cooper and Co. Southampton-buildings). Seecombe J. Walkhampton, Hoyte K. Grampound, Hore W. same place, Burley C. Walkhampton, and Searle R. St. Stevens, woollen-manufacturers (Fairbank, Ely-place). Spencer H. West Wratting, maltster (Cutting, Bartlett's-buildings).

Tidmarsh J. New County Terrace, builder (Phillips and Co. Howard-street). Thomson J. Lowerhouse, grocer (Hurd, King's Bench Walks). Thorpe W. Pocklington, grocer (Blackiston, Symond's Inn). Tompkins R. Hatton-garden, merchant (Bishop, York-place). Turner J. Swefling, draper (Debary and Co. Tanfield-court). Tinney W. Cambridge, surgeon (Bigg, Hatton-garden).

Wright C. Aldgate, tobacconist (Redit, Cook's-court). Wallis J. Dartmouth-str. dealer (Rogers, Manchester-buildings).—Wrae J. Ferrybridge, coal-merchant (Exley and Co. Furnival's Inn). Woodhilove R. Ainsworth Mill, calico printer (Lyon and Co. Gray's Inn). Wain J. Mount-street, merchant (Highmoor, Bush-lane) Wright T. Duiverton, innkeeper (Lys, Took's-court). Wood T. Sheffield, merchant (Blakelock, Temple). Withall C. Fenchurch-street, warehouse keeper (Carpenter and Co. Basinghall-street). Wills T. Lamb's Conduit-street, linen-draper (Bell and Co. Bow-lane). Wrigley J. Pitt-street, hat-manufacturer (Taylor, Took's-court). Williams L. Nicholas-lane, merchant (Day, Pump-court). Winter W. jun. Blackfriars'-road (Meymott, Charlotte-street). Wilkinson J. Liquor-pond street, baker (Nettlefold, Fenchurch-street). Washington J. Ashborne, saddler (Tucker, Staples Inn). Woolley J. P. Walham-green, brewer (Taylor, Took's-court). Wright N. Nottingham, brick-maker (Baxter and Co. Furnival's Inn).

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE STATE OF COMMERCE.

London, Feb. 20, 1808.

IN our last report, we gave the particulars of the large sales of the East India Company, to which we beg leave to refer our readers. The said Company has since declared the following goods for sale, viz.

Company's SALTPETRE, 20,000 Bags, more or less, on Wednesday the 23d March, 1808—Prompt, 24th June following.

We are happy to find, that the trade between this country and the Brazils may now be said to be opened, as the bill for that purpose has passed the House of Commons, and, in consequence of it, large speculations have gone forward, both here and at Liverpool, in the article of cotton wool, which has advanced nearly 2d. per lb. *on the finer sorts*, and very considerable orders have been sent by the merchants to the manufacturers in Lancashire, for printed and plain cotton and calicos for that market. We have no doubt, this new opening to a very extensive trade will every day increase, and once more raise the drooping spirits of all the manufacturing towns in the United Kingdom. The Sugar market continues unusually flat, but Rum, Cotton, and Coffee have advanced in price, and are demanded. Yet the Merchants and Planters in the West Indies expect Parliamentary relief; and we trust that their petition, handed into the House of Commons in July last, will be attended to. And we also hope, that the Legislature will adopt some mode to encourage the culture of *Flax seed* throughout the kingdom, as the linen manufacture of Ireland will feel very severely the loss of that article from America, of which nearly 42,000 hogsheads were annually imported. Some seed used to be imported also from Holland and the Baltic, but all those ports being at present shut against us, we think every encouragement that our Parliament can give to the manufacturers of this staple article should be immediately attended to.

The Wines of Portugal have risen full 15*l.* per pipe, in consequence of the present situation of that unfortunate country. Brandies have risen from 20*s.* to 26*s.* per gallon, under the idea that a new additional duty was to have taken place this Session of Parliament, and the importers of it have paid nearly 200,000*l.* duty in the course of a few days past; but *no such duty* is likely now to take place; consequently, the revenue have benefited much by the idle report of a *new duty*: however, it is to be hoped, the consumer will buy sparingly, until brandy comes to its usual and customary price.

We consider the Americans to have acted very wisely, by laying on the present embargo on all their shipping, until they know the *final* result of the present deliberations both here and at Paris.

PRICES OF CANAL, DOCK, FIRE-OFFICE, WATER WORKS, and BREWERY SHARES, &c. &c.

February 22, 1808.

London Dock Stock, 110*l.* per Cent.
East-India ditto, 122*l.* per Cent.
West-India ditto, 145*l.* per Cent.
Commercial Dock Shares, 126*l.* cent.
Grand Junction Canal, 92*l.* per share.
Grand Surrey ditto, 46*l.* per ditto.
Imperial Fire Insurance, 11*l.* per cent. prem.
Globe Fire and Life ditto, 110*l.* per cent.
Albion ditto ditto, 3½ per cent. prem.
Hope ditto ditto, 1*s.* prem.
Rock Life Assurance, 7*s.* prem.
East London Water-works, 70*gs.* prem.
West Middlesex ditto, 18*gs.* prem.
South London ditto, 60*l.* prem.
London Institution, 85*l.* per share
Kent Fire Office Shares, 40*l* per share.
Commercial Road, 118*l.* per share.

L. WOLFE and Co. *Canal, Dock, & Stock Brokers.*

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

OUT-DOOR business has been much impeded this winter by the heavy falls of snow, yet the country through, perhaps the lands were never in better condition, or more likely to work well for the Lent sowing. Beans and early oats are got in, and the wheat crop will be much benefited by the several covers of snow it has had. Some complaints are made in the North of the yellow and sickly appearance of the latter sown wheats, but, in general, all the crops on the ground look well and of esteemed good promise. Turnips are every where cleared off, and have continued sounder than could have been expected.

A great number of lambs have been lost from the changeableness and severity of the weather, and it is much to be feared that, at the conclusion of the season, the accounts of both sheep and lambs lost will be heavier than have been heard of for a number of years. Live stock have succeeded remarkably well this winter in the home-stall, where fodder and provision have been abundant, but not so abroad. Lean stock and fleshy things are in great plenty, but good fat beef and mutton are likely to be rising articles in the spring, from the shortness of keep. In Ireland, the provision trade fully stocked, but upon the advance.

Smithfield—Beef, 4s. to 5s.4d.; mutton, 5s. to 5s.6d; lamb, 7s to 10s.; veal, 7s.6d. to 9s.; pork, 4s. 6d. to 7s.; bacon, 6s.; Irish ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; fat, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; skins, low.

Middlesex, Feb. 25.

AVERAGE PRICES OF CORN,

By the Winchester Quarter of 8 Bushels, and of OATMEAL per Boll of 140lbs. Averdupois, from the Returns received in the Week ended Feb. 13, 1808.

INLAND COUNTIES.

	Wheat		Rye		Barley		Oats	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Middsx.	73	7	50	4	40	8	36	5
Surrey	73	0	46	0	43	0	37	10
Hertford	68	10	43	0	44	11	33	2
Bedford	65	4	48	0	40	10	33	1
Huntin.	64	5	———		42	0	29	0
Northa.	64	7	———		38	2	29	10
Rutland	73	3	———		43	9	32	0
Leicest.	69	3	44	3	38	1	29	2
Notting.	73	6	44	6	44	7	31	4
Derby	76	0	———		46	0	30	8
Statford	73	0	———		42	7	33	5
Salop	68	4	48	2	37	1	31	2
Herefor.	65	9	41	6	33	10	30	4
Wor'st.	66	1	———		36	2	35	11
Warwic	69	11	———		38	8	34	0
Wilts	63	8	———		36	0	31	10
Berks	74	4	———		39	1	35	5
Oxford	67	1	———		36	0	31	0
Bucks	69	5	———		39	4	33	2
Brecon	64	0	———		33	8	24	0
Montgo.	65	7	———		33	7	32	10
Radnor.	63	6	———		30	9	27	11

MARITIME COUNTIES.

	Wheat		Rye		Barley		Oats	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Essex	72	6	———		45	0	34	6
Kent	71	3	47	0	43	3	34	6
Sussex	67	10	———		41	0	32	4
Suffolk	68	10	47	0	42	4	32	1
Cambridge	64	6	48	4	42	0	27	5
Norfolk	66	2	49	6	39	9	31	8
Lincoln	69	6	45	4	41	5	29	2
York	68	6	48	2	40	9	28	5
Durham	67	0	———		40	0	29	7
Northumberland	60	4	48	0	40	6	32	4
Cumberland	70	9	57	4	38	5	30	6
Westmorland	77	8	58	0	37	0	29	11
Lancaster	73	1	———		39	11	29	4
Chester	67	8	———		40	2	30	8
Flint	None		bought		for sale		———	
Denbigh	78	2	———		43	5	27	6
Anglesea	———		———		35	4	25	0
Carnarvon	78	4	———		39	8	24	0
Merioneth	72	0	———		38	2	22	0
Cardigan	80	4	———		30	0	20	0
Pembroke	61	10	———		34	2	21	7
Carmarthen	65	0	———		34	5	21	9
Glamorgan	68	5	———		37	4	22	0
Gloucester	67	2	———		35	5	32	10
Somerset	70	2	———		35	5	26	10
Monmouth	68	10	———		35	2	26	8
Devon	67	4	———		33	6	26	1
Cornwall	70	2	———		33	10	22	10
Dorset	67	4	———		33	2	28	0
Hants	66	6	———		38	0	31	7

Average of England and Wales.

Wheat 69s. 2d.; Rye 47s. 10d.; Barley 38s. 6d.; Oats 29s. 8d.; Beans 56s. 5d.; Pease 71s. 4d.; Oatmeal 45s. 9d.

BILL of MORTALITY, from JAN. 26, to FEB. 16, 1808.

CHRISTENED.			BURIED.		
Males	628	1277	Males,	916	1797
Females	649		Females,	881	
Whereof have died under two years old		582			

Between							
2 and 5	-	239	60 and 70		148		
5 and 10	-	86	70 and 80		114		
10 and 20	-	51	80 and 90	-	52		
20 and 30	-	85	90 and 100	-	4		
30 and 40	-	150					
40 and 50	-	141					
50 and 60	-	150					

Peck Loaf, 3s. 9d. 3s. 10d. 3s.10d. 4s. 3d.
Salt, 20s. per bushel, 4½ per lb.

PRICE OF STOCKS, from JANUARY 26, 1808, to FEBRUARY 24, 1808, both inclusive.

Days 1808	Bank Stock.	3 p Cent Consols.	3 p Cent. Reduc.	4 p. Ct. Cons.	Navy 5 p. Cent	N. 5 p.Ct	Long Anns.	Omn.	Irish Om.	Imperial 3 p. Cent	Imperial Anns.	Irish 5 p.C	Irish Ann.	S. Sea Stock.	S. Sea Anns.	India Sto.	India Bonds.	Exche. Bills.	Lottery Tickets
Jan.																			
26	226	63 ¼	63¾	82½	96½	100	18 1-16th	2¼	—	62⅞	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	Par.	3s. pm	20 19
27	—	63 ¼	63⅜	82⅝	96⅝	—	18 1 16th	—	—	63	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	Par	3s. pm	20 19
28	227½	63 ¼ ⅜	64	82¾	96⅝	—	18⅛	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Par.	2s pm.	20 19
29	227½	63 ¼ ⅜	64¼	82¾	96½	—	18⅛	2¾	—	63¼	7 9 16ths	—	—	—	—	171½	Par.	2s pm	20 19
30	holiday																		
Feb.																			
1	228	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82½	96½	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Par.	2s. pm	20 19
2	holiday																		
3	228½	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82⅝	96½	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	63⅛	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	171	—	1s. pm	21 0
4	228½	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82⅝	96⅝	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	63⅛	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	171	Par	1s pm.	21 0
5	228¼	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82¾	96½	—	18 3-16ths	2¾	—	63⅛	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	170¾	Par.	1s. pm.	21 0
6	223	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82¾	96½	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	—	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	—	Par.	1s. pm.	21 0
8	—	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82¾	96⅝	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	—	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	170½	1s. dis	1s. pm.	21 0
9	228½	63⅜ ½	64⅛	82¾	96½	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	—	7 11-16th	94	—	—	—	170½	1s. dis.	2s. pm.	21 0
10	—	63⅜ ½	64¼	82¾	96½	—	18⅛	3¼	—	63½	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	170½	1s. dis.	1s. pm.	21 0
11	230	63⅜ ½	64¼	82¾	96⅝	—	18⅛	—	—	63½	7⅝	—	—	—	—	170½	1s. dis.	1s. pm.	21 0
12	—	63½ ½	64⅛	82⅝	96⅝	—	18⅛	3	—	63⅜	7 11-16th	94½	—	—	—	—	2s. dis	1s. pm.	21 0
15	—	63½ ⅝	64⅛	82⅝	96⅝	—	18 3-16ths	—	—	—	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	1s. dis	Par.	21 0
15	—	63¼ ⅝	64⅛	82⅝	96⅜	—	18⅛	—	—	63½	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	1s. dis.	Par.	21 0
16	233	63⅜ ⅝	64⅛	82⅝	96⅞	—	18⅛	—	—	—	7⅝	—	—	—	—	171	2s. dis.	Par.	21 0
17	holiday																		
18	234	63⅝ ⅞	64⅛	82⅝	96⅞	—	18 5-16ths	—	—	—	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	—	3s. dis	1s. pm	21 0
19	—	63⅝ ⅞	64⅛	82⅝	96⅝	—	18 5-16ths	—	—	63⅝	7 11-16th	—	—	—	—	171	2s. dis	1s. pm.	21 0
20	—	63¾ ⅞	64⅛	82¾	97	—	18⅜	—	—	—	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	2s dis.	Par.	21 0
22	—	63⅝ ¾	64⅛	82¾	97	—	18⅜	—	—	63⅝	7⅝	—	—	—	—	—	3s. dis	Par.	21 0
23	232	63⅝ ¾	64⅛	82¾	97	—	18 5-16ths	—	—	—	7⅝	—	—	—	—	171½	2s. dis	Par.	21 0
24	—																		

N.B. In the 3 per Cent Consols the *highest* and *lowest* Price of each day is given; in the other Stocks the *highest* only.

City Lottery Tickets 7l. 14s.

EDWARD FORTUNE, STOCK-BROKER and GENERAL AGENT, No. 13, Cornhill.

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